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PM weighs pullback referendum

By JAY BUSHINSKY and MARILYN HENRY

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is considering holding a national referendum on the US-brokered deal for a 15 percent IDF pullback in the West Bank, a spokesman said yesterday.

Netanyahu himself hinted at the idea in an Israel Radio interview in which he said: "It is essential that there be broad public support so that the rifts in the nation will heal and thereby achieve domestic peace, not only external peace."

Netanyahu communications director David Bar-Illan told The Associated Press that a final decision about a referendum would be made over the next few days.

"My feeling is that a vote will probably be on a package regarding the present discussions, which will include Palestinian compliance and the total scope of withdrawals by Israel before final-status decisions are made," Bar-Illan added.

[Palestinians said] that the referendum plan is just a tactic to buy time.

One of them, Hassan Asfour, was quoted by the AP as saying that Netanyahu is using it as an excuse to refrain from carrying out withdrawals to which Israel already is committed.

But in the radio interview, Netanyahu said security is his overriding concern.

"My considerations are over what is the best agreement from the point of view of security, settlement, and the national interest," he said. "And of course that there will be reciprocity – that the Palestinians will fulfill their commitments."

In a subsequent television appearance the prime minister cited the long-pending revision of the Palestinian Covenant to expunge its clauses that call for Israel's destruction.

"If Chairman Yasser Arafat cannot convene the Palestinian National Council to this end, what point is there in trying to make peace?" he said.

Netanyahu also told US Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for the Near East and Africa Judith Barnett in a meeting yesterday:

"The articles of the covenant must be completely changed. How can Israel be expected to make further concessions to the Palestinian Authority, when it refuses to say that the covenant calling for Israel's destruction has been rescinded? This is not a legal question, but a logical one. If Arafat cannot convene the Palestine National Council in order to say that the [articles calling for the] destruction of Israel have been rescinded, then what kind of peace do we have? He must do this, it is a logical step, and it is also acceptable to the Israeli public and all those who seek peace. He must rescind the covenant, period."

In New York, Clinton said that Israel should move quickly to the final-status talks with the Palestinians, according to the Israeli Mission to the UN.

At the UN on Monday for a special international session about drug policy, Clinton spotted Israeli envoy Dore Gold as he was leaving the General Assembly chamber.

He signalled Gold to join him and said "he hoped that – the sooner the better – we would move to final-status talks and stop arguing over the interim agreement," the spokesman at the Israeli Mission said. The spokesman stressed that the UN encounter was informal and not an official notice by the US.

Clinton was accompanied by US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who made no comment, the spokesman said.

In Washington, peace envoy Dennis Ross told Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani that, while the US cannot be a substitute for direct contact between the parties, there will be no agreement without American involvement, especially on a permanent agreement.

See PM, Page 2

Exit polls:

Peretz landslide in Histadrut elections

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Incumbent Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz scored a landslide victory yesterday over MK Maxim Levy (Gesher) in the Histadrut elections, according to the predictions of exit polls published late last night by both television stations.

Peretz received 79% of the vote, compared to Levy's 21% according to Channel 1's poll, conducted by Teleseker, and 75% compared to 25% for Levy, according to Channel 2's poll, conducted by Dr. Mina Zemah of the Dahaf Institute.

A final vote count was not expected to be announced before this morning. Voter turnout among the estimated 600,000 Histadrut members was reported to be relatively low at about 42%, Israel Radio said.

It was the first Histadrut election win for Peretz who inherited his position from MK Haim Ramon (Labor). His triumph establishes Peretz as a prominent political figure, as well as a leader of the nation's workers.

Election marred by charges of cheating, Page 2

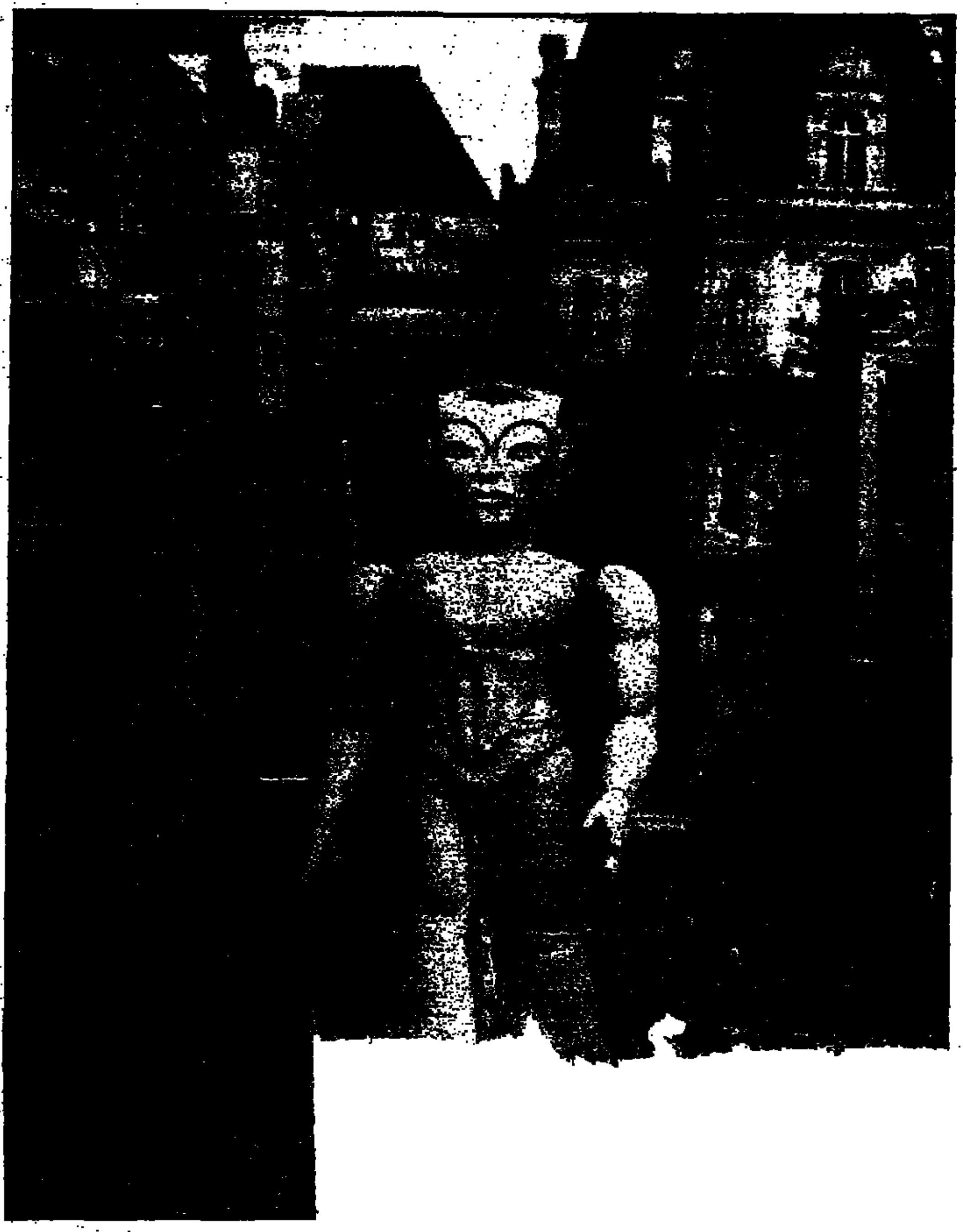
For Levy, the head of the Gesher-Meretz list, the loss was the result of one of his toughest political showdowns. Political observers said yesterday that Levy's defeat should not be underestimated, considering that he had taken on not only Peretz or Labor, but a massive "wall-to-wall" coalition including the Likud, Shas, and Yisrael Ba'aliya.

Peretz's campaign staff, who crowded his Tel Aviv headquarters eagerly awaiting the victor's arrival, burst into spontaneous singing and hugging late last night after the television projections were announced.

Histadrut Treasurer Shmuel Avital, also on Peretz's Am list, said "this proves Peretz is the number one workers leader in Israel. He is also the only one who has succeeded in uniting all the factions around him."

All Gesher-Meretz's leaders were gathered at their campaign headquarters, where Maxim Levy received the news with a grim face. "Our people were threatened, so perhaps they didn't tell the pollsters their real choice. I suggest we wait for the real results, and I'm sure I'll have a better score there," he said.

Levy's brother, MK David Levy, the former foreign minister, said that "forming the social camp was and still is justified and right. This is the first time two small parties have faced off against all the parties in Israel, and we're proud of it. Going together [Gesher and Meretz] was not a mistake – it would have been a mistake to do nothing and let that colossal coalition trample over workers' rights."



A giant figure named Ho para... parade. Ho, which represents... that converged for an evening... Page 20.

Ready o...

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Knesset elections, the Olympics, February 29 – these are some of the events that occur every four years. But none of them can match World Cup whoopee, which begins tonight as defending champion Brazil faces Scotland and Morocco takes on Norway.

A billion people, maybe two, will be watching on televisions around the world, and Israelis are no different than soccer-crazy fans anywhere else.

At the Aroma Cafe in Haifa, three screens will be provided for the expected crowd, two measuring 2 meters X 2 meters for inside customers, and one 4 X 6 outside for more fans. "We've got a satellite dish on the roof, so besides the 56 games live on Israel TV, we'll be able to show the eight other games as well," said owner Sara Tregger.

"We're going to put curtains on the widows to block out the the...

...month as they are left stranded by their TV-hugging husbands?

Noam Semel, general manager of the Cameri Theater, issued a call to "the women of Israel to leave their husbands in front of the TV and come to Cameri shows every day during the World Cup."

He said there are 20 shows countrywide, including a new show opening Saturday night, *The Rebels* by Edna Mazia. However, he noted, Saturday night's show – when Holland plays Belgium – is sold out.

Of course, the most important thing is the TV itself. There has been a reported 15-20 percent increase in television sales dur-...

...screens of 29" and up. He noted that he had sold six 38" screens in the last week, instead of the usual average of one a week. He said sales of VCRs were also up about 20%. And everyone has one demand: deliver it by today's opening.

"Some people come in and say, 'I came to buy a TV, but don't ask me if I'm buying it for the World Cup,'" said Yahav. "I don't know why they are embarrassed to say it's for the World Cup. Some men have come in to get a second TV for their wives to watch; one guy even came in and said he needed a TV because his wife is the soccer fan."

Haig backs Sharon in Lebanon libel suit

By DAN IZENBERG

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon yesterday asked the Supreme Court to accept new evidence allegedly proving that prime minister Menachem Begin knew long in advance of the plans to send the IDF into Lebanon up to the southern suburbs of Beirut.

The new evidence comes in the form of an affidavit by former US secretary of state Alexander Haig, who has testified to the fact that Begin told him in October 1981 that the army had started plans for an incursion into Lebanon and that the troops would reach the approaches to Beirut.

In January, Sharon appealed a decision by Tel Aviv District Court, which had rejected his libel suit against *Ha'aretz* and its columnist, Uzi Benziman. Benziman wrote that Sharon had deceived Begin, who had only approved a plan to send Israeli troops 40 kilometers north of the border.

The Lebanese invasion took place in June 1982, when Sharon served as defense minister. The appeal included the memorandum of a discussion which took place among Sharon, Haig, and other officials in May 1982, during which Haig mentioned the conversation with Begin.

See SHARON, Page 2

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NEWS
in brief

Palestinian killed by IDF near Gaza settlement

A Palestinian man died of his wounds after being shot by IDF troops as he attempted to enter the Gush Katif settlement Morag late last night, settlers said. The IDF Spokesman said the incident was being investigated. In another incident last night, shots were fired at an Israeli vehicle on the Trans-Judea Highway bypass. No one was injured but settlers said two bullets penetrated the vehicle.

The IDF Spokesman said that several shots were also fired at an Israeli vehicle from a passing car close to Adura near Hebron. The spokesman said no one was injured in the incident and IDF troops searched the area. *Margot Dudkevitch*

Yisrael Ba'aliya MK meets Mahmoud Abbas

Seeking to acquaint himself with the Palestinian leadership, MK Roman Bronfman (Yisrael Ba'aliya) met yesterday with PLO Executive Committee Secretary Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah yesterday.

Before the meeting began, Bronfman said: "I am not part of a negotiating team, but am just a coalition party member seeking to meet the Palestinian leadership and gain a better understanding." *Margot Dudkevitch and Mohammed Najib.*

Bentsur calls on Russia to back Lebanon pullout

Russia was urged yesterday by Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur to continue supporting Israel's offer to withdraw from southern Lebanon's security zone in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 425.

During the first day of dialogue in Moscow between Israeli and Russian diplomats, Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Posuvalyuk also was thanked by Bentsur for "the Russian effort regarding Israel's prisoners of war and missing soldiers." Posuvalyuk said Russia is interested in playing a leading role in the peace process and that it is prepared to host the multilateral talks' steering committee "when conditions for this are right." *Jay Bushinsky*

Australian foreign minister visits today

Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer is due to arrive today for a two-day visit that is expected to include meetings with President Ezer Weizman, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Communications Minister Limor Livnat and MK Yossi Beilin (Labor). He is also planning to speak before the Israel-Australian Chamber of Commerce. After leaving Israel on Friday, Downer is scheduled to fly to Egypt. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Teenager, woman run over and killed

A 17-year-old youth was run over and killed near Ganot Junction yesterday evening. Police said he was hit as he ran across the road by a truck driven by a 26-year-old from Jerusalem The driver was detained by police.

A 31-year-old woman was killed yesterday in Jerusalem when she was struck by a car as she crossed the street. The driver, who was described as young, was reportedly speeding.

The victim, Yardena Shalom, died of her injuries at Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, after being evacuated by a Magen David Adom ambulance from Derekh Hebron. She was married and the mother of two.

The driver, from Baka al-Gharbiya, was lightly wounded and was treated at Shaarei Zedek Hospital. Jerusalem police are investigating the circumstances of the accident. *Itim*

Nahal Taninim Reserve damaged by arson

Suspected arson caused extensive damage yesterday to flora and fauna in the Nahal Taninim Nature Reserve near Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael. Officials of the Nature Reserves-National Parks Authority said investigators had determined that the fire – the fifth in the area in the past month – appeared to have been started deliberately. *David Rudge*

Shahak: Hizbullah views debate over pullout as Israel's weakness

By LIAT COLLINS and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Chief-of-General-Staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak reportedly said yesterday that Hizbullah sees the debate in Israel over unilateral withdrawal from south Lebanon as a weakness and an incentive to step up attacks against the IDF.

Shahak was quoted from a closed-door meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

He later told parliamentary reporters, however, that the discussion about a withdrawal is legitimate and that Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein, the head of the IDF liaison unit with south Lebanon, should not have criticized the pro-withdrawal movements.

Referring to Gerstein's remarks to military reporters on Monday, Shahak said:

"I assume he said [this] out of some feelings of difficulty and pain and the way he sees things as the commander of soldiers serving in south Lebanon."

Shahak added that he could "guess what was behind these words but I don't think they should have been said. Statements by people in Israel regarding Lebanon, as I have said more than once, are legitimate. There is an argument and it is legitimate. Ultimately we'll have to reach decisions and draw conclusions."

Several MKs condemned Gerstein yesterday.

MK Haim Ramon (Labor) and Ran Cohen (Meretz) demanded his removal. MK Yael Dayan (Labor) demanded that Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai bring Gerstein before a disciplinary tribunal.

MK Yossi Beilin (Labor) argued that Israel's strength is based on holding open discussion.

MK Ephraim Sneh (Labor), a former head of the south Lebanon liaison unit, spoke in Gerstein's defense.

Sneh said that "Gerstein spoke out on a subject that is within his jurisdiction as the person responsible for the security zone and the soldiers serving in south Lebanon and when people interfere with him doing this, it is his duty, not his right, to tell to the truth.

"There is hypocrisy here because had he said something they wanted to hear, all the politicians who are criticizing him would be praising him for his moral courage. It is isn't by chance that all those who have served in this position oppose unilateral withdrawal, " Sneh continued.

Committee chairman Uzi Landau (Likud) said that officers should be barred from speaking out on political issues.

He also condemned the practice of reserve officers signing advertisements about political issues citing their ranks and units.

"I personally agree with every word [Gerstein] said. But I rule out his right as an officer to say them. The IDF should be above political argument," Landau said.

In the committee meeting, Shahak reportedly said that although Gerstein's statements were "out of line and redundant" he would not be dismissed.

He also recalled his own feelings as an officer traveling to south Lebanon during the 1982 Operation Peace for Galilee and seeing placards with slogans like: "Those who serve in Lebanon are suckers."

Gerstein had initially made his remarks in an off-the-record briefing on Monday. Later he surprised reporters by speaking into a microphone, despite efforts by Lt.-Col. Ofer Lefler, a senior officer in the IDF's Spokesman's office, to dissuade him from doing so.

It was not the first time that the outspoken Gerstein has been controversial.

A few months ago, Gerstein was quoted saying to a closed forum of senior IDF officers that "the blood of IDF soldiers is no less red then that of the residents of Galilee."

Shahak recently warned IDF commanders to keep their opinions to themselves, after Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilnai criticized his not being chosen as Shahak's successor and following statements by Brig.-Gen. Ya'akov Amidror, Mordechai's military aide, who called secular Israelis "Hebrew-speaking gentiles."

Former OC Northern Command Yossi Peled called for dismissing officers who speak out of place. "People understand actions better than words," he said.

During Operation Grapes of Wrath two years ago, one of Gerstein's predecessors, Brig.-Gen. Giora Inbar, also got into trouble for saying that he "would not let the politicians stop the operation before" the IDF had completed its goals.

Shahak dismissed Inbar. But with less than a month left to serve in office, it is believed unlikely that Shahak will take similar action against Gerstein.

Members of the Four Mothers movement stage a protest yesterday at the Good Fence while one woman hands a leaflet calling for an end to south Lebanon bloodletting to a Lebanese worker as he crosses into Metulla. (Text: David Rudge/Photo: Aviha Shapira)

Mubarak to Egyptian, Israeli peace activists: I don't trust Netanyahu

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told a meeting of Israeli and Egyptian peace activists in Cairo yesterday that he did not trust Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and was pessimistic about the peace process.

A delegation of Peace Now activists currently in Cairo to strengthen ties with their Egyptian counterparts, the Egyptian Peace Movement, signed a joint statement yesterday.

Mubarak stressed the urgency of solving the current deadlock as soon as possible, adding that if it continued to drag on it will play against both sides. Mubarak said he told Netanyahu "you are a nice person, but I don't trust you."

The joint statement signed by the activists calls for allowing the Palestinians the right of self-determination and the establishment of a state alongside Israel.

In addition, the pre-June 5, 1967 borders should constitute the guiding lines for the determination of permanent borders between Israel and the Palestinian state and that mutual and agreed border adjustments will be introduced to address the needs of both sides.

The geographical continuity of territory in the West Bank and Gaza must be guaranteed and free and immediate passages set up in these areas.

Relating to the settlers, the statement said settlers in locations which after the determination of the borders fall within the Palestinian state will be able to return to Israel and receive appropriate compensation from the Israeli government.

The statement also called for both sides to refrain from engaging in violence or terrorist activities against civilians. Jerusalem will remain a united city but two capitals will exist within the municipal area – "the capital of Israel in the Jewish areas and the capital of Palestine in the Arab areas."

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Chairman, **Nahum Ariel**, Advocate
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Tirza Alkanati

PM

Continued from Page 1

Israeli officials quoted Ross as saying it would be easier to make headway if Netanyahu and Arafat would meet, and that they lack confidence in one another. Ross was said to regret the stalemate which has hamstrung the negotiating process for the past five months.

"My impression is that Ross is performing difficult and complicated work," Kahalani said after the meeting Monday at the Israeli Consulate. "I believe that American mediation is a good thing, but we have become dependent on the US and that is not good."

Ross spoke of a need for a continuing American role, "and there will be. There are not going to be agreements without a continuing American role." But, Ross added, there must be communication between the parties. "There is no substitute for that. We cannot substitute for what they must, over time, be able to do themselves."

According to Ross, "The reality is there has been a stalemate for 15 months. What we're trying to do is see if we can end that stalemate, and we believe it's possible."

The differences between the parties "are not wide, but we have not been able to overcome them," Ross said. "As long as we believe that it's possible to overcome them, we are going to continue the efforts," he said. "Our objective is to produce a breakthrough if we can. We still believe that's possible, we think the gaps that remain are certainly bridgeable and we're working very hard to see if we can, in fact, bridge them."

Kahalani said that the scale of the third phase of redeployment cannot be forced on Israel, and that the parties should go directly to permanent-status talks.

Meanwhile, a senior US official in Washington said yesterday that the Clinton administration is looking to Jordan's King Hussein to help quell calls in the Arab world for a summit on the frozen Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Hussein might meet with President Bill Clinton next week, a Jordanian embassy official said.

"The king has played a very supportive role in the [peace] process, not only with Israel but with the Arab world," the US official said. "We certainly hope that that continues. Now is not the time for a negative, hostile Arab reaction," the official said. "I think the king is doing his best to have a moderate Arab reaction going."

The monarch was due to arrive in Washington last night for a private visit centering on a family event in Boston and his regular medical examination at Minnesota's Mayo Clinic, the embassy official said.

Jewish settlers, meanwhile, vowed yesterday to renew their campaign to topple the government, to stage protests outside government officials' homes, and to string banners across intersections if Netanyahu agrees to a further withdrawal.

At an emergency meeting Sunday night, the settlers entitled their new campaign: "The struggle of the Land of Israel." The meeting was attended by Land of Israel Front leader MK Michael Kleiner (Gesher), Beit El Mayor Uri Ariel, Ya'acov Katz, a member of the recently established Tekuma movement, representatives of the Religious Kibbutz Movement, and the Gamla Shall Not Fall Again group.

Hillel Kuttler and Margot Dudkevitch contributed to this report.

SHARON

Continued from Page 1

According to Sharon and his lawyer, Dov Weissglass, the memorandum came to light recently – after the appeal to the Supreme Court had been lodged – due to the end of a moratorium on the publication of official US government papers of that year.

After the memorandum was released, Sharon asked Haig to file an affidavit testifying to its veracity.

Haig wrote: "At the funeral of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in October 1981, Prime Minister Begin told me for the first time that Israel had begun planning a move into Lebanon. Thereafter, on several occasions, Begin made clear to me the depths of his feelings that if the PLO threatened Israel, Israel would have no choice but to respond aggressively in Lebanon. Specifically, Begin advised me that a large-scale force would advance from the Israeli border to the southern suburbs of Beirut. Its target would be the PLO infrastructure."

Haig also confirmed in the affidavit that the memorandum accurately reflected his conversation with Sharon less than two weeks before the Lebanese invasion, during which Haig told Sharon about Begin's remarks regarding the planned advance.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Visiting G.S.E. students from Germany and Seattle, Wa., U.S.A.

Shahak warns against drawn-out withdrawal stages

By LIAT COLLINS

In his last appearance before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak warned that a long drawn-out interim stage between the redeployment and the final status agreement could cause a complicated security situation in Judea and Samaria.

Shahak said there is a "potential" for confrontation in Judea and Samaria and added that events there will be affected by the nature of the negotiations currently being carried out.

There is currently a waiting period to see where the negotiations are heading and what they mean, he said.

Much of his final meeting was dedicated to the defense budget and warnings against possible cuts. "With the budget today in its current form it is impossible to achieve security," Shahak reportedly said. "If there is not a change in the long term, the IDF will have to lower its security standards. This will harm deterrence and be a gift to our enemies."

He said without a change in the defense budget the IDF will have to take difficult decisions regarding manpower.

Regarding Lebanon, he said that although there has been no drastic change, Israel has detected an improvement in Hizbullah's means and capabilities. He said the IDF has also improved its operations in Lebanon.

He warned, however, that the fighting there is complicated and would continue to involve casualties.

He said there had been a rise in the monthly numbers of incidents since January this year compared to 1997. Last month there were 180 incidents, he said.

The Lebanese government cannot reach a practical decision without Syria's approval, Shahak said. Syria will continue to be the key to the Lebanese question, because it has political and economic interests there.

The committee praised Shahak's work as chief-of-general-staff and held a farewell luncheon for him in the MKs' cafeteria.

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Histadrut vote subdued even in 'red' city

DAVID RUDGE

The biggest battle in the Histadrut elections yesterday did not appear to be between the leading candidates, Chairman Amir Peretz and MK Maxim Levy, but in generating sufficient interest to get people out to vote.

Even in the so-called "red" city of Haifa - the biggest single district in the Histadrut with over 71,000 eligible voters - the election was a subdued affair.

A few cars with stickers and flags, as well as posters, primarily outside polling stations, displaying the photogenic virtues of the respective candidates, were the only signs of campaign fever.

"Anybody who votes in these elections is a sucker," said veteran Histadrut member Shimon Edan, 53, a former employee of the Vulcan engineering firm.

He left there several years ago when his section was dismantled and moved from Haifa to Karmiel.

"I never voted before, even though I was a member of the works committee, because I saw the money that was wasted and the way the Histadrut fired workers from its own companies," said Edan, who now runs a stationery store in Haifa's French Carmel district.

"I would certainly not vote now, even though I'm still entitled to," he added.

By contrast, Yigor Fleitel, 33, who immigrated from the former Soviet Union seven years ago, went to the Sprinzak polling station to vote.

But he found he was ineligible because his membership fees had not been fully paid.

"It's a pity because I really wanted to vote. When I first came to Israel I didn't think much about the unions, especially after what we had experienced in the Soviet Union," said Fleitel, a physical exercise instructor.

"The Histadrut, however, helped me when I needed help and I wanted to help them," he explained. "I think it has an important role to play today to safeguard jobs and the rights of workers – particularly when unemployment is rising and factories and businesses are closing," he said.

His comments were echoed by a young volunteer at the polling station, 18 year-old David Salama, working for Peretz's Am list. Am is a coalition of Labor, Likud, Shas, Yisrael Ba'aliya and the Arab Democratic Party.

"The elections should be important to people because the Histradrut is the strength and backbone of the workers," said Salama. "Without it, employers would be able to do what they like."

Baruch Zaltz, the incumbent chairman of the Histadrut's Haifa district, and his rival for the post from the Gesher-Meretz list, Michel Almaliah, a former Histadrut leader, toured polling stations in the city and the bayside suburbs.

Histadrut polls marred by missing ballots, charges of cheating

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

The Histadrut elections got off to a rocky start yesterday when several polling stations failed to open, while some officials reported that voting slips were missing and the parties accused each other of cheating. Some candidates urged that the polling be canceled due to the irregularities.

In the elections, up to 600,000 eligible voters were casting ballots at 1,321 polling booths to select a new Histadrut chairman, 2001 Histadrut convention members, a Naamat chairperson and 901 Naamat central committee members.

MK David Levy (Likud), the former foreign minister, whose brother Maxim ran as Gesher-Meretz's candidate for Histadrut leader, accused competitors of "using intimidation techniques which I thought had passed from the world."

"They're hiding voting slips or covering them with others, they're threatening our candidates, and bringing voters to the polls in organized transports," Levy said.

Levy, who toured the polls to help Maxim, said that four men were caught at one station trying to vote for Naamat.

"You have to see it to believe it," said Levy. He charged that incumbent Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz's Am list was "taking advantage of the fact that the polling supervisors belong to the apparatus, which they control. It's third world tactics."

MK Anat Maor, Gesher-Meretz's candidate for Naamat chairperson, urged that the elections be called off, after finding that some ballot boxes had been emptied of voting slips for the Gesher-Meretz party called Haver.

Am people accused Haver members of making up accusations to cover up for their expected defeat.

The central elections committee at Histadrut headquarters in Tel Aviv were inundated with complaints about disorders. It had no fewer than four million voting slips printed yesterday to be sent to polling stations throughout the country.

Thousands of kibbutz members found out only yesterday they were no longer eligible to vote as a result of a prolonged legal battle with the Histadrut. Among them were about 15,000 angry and frustrated members of 65 United Kibbutz Movement kibbutzim.

In the spirit of the times, both Peretz and Levy appeared at the polls with their wives, holding hands, smiling to the cameras and making confident statements.

Peretz cast his ballot with his wife Ahlama in his home town of Sderot. The mayor, David Buskila, was Peretz's campaign manager.

While touring polling stations, Peretz ran into a supporter at the Ramat Aviv booth: former prime minister MK Shimon Peres.

Peres said that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak "should take lessons from Peretz, for the way he managed to form a coalition around him of Labor, the Likud and Shas."

After casting his vote in Lod, Maxim Levy called on all Histadrut members to exercise their right to vote. "By now Israel's workers know already what a social catastrophe is happening, and that these elections are their battle," he said.

A group of Oz members, the list formed by the large unions, tried to break into Histadrut headquarters in the morning in protest against the problems at polling stations. At the Israel Aircraft Industries polls failed to open on time.

"Peretz may win, but if we find he resorted to these tactics he will find himself without a Histadrut. We won't be there," an Oz member said.

A Histadrut member casts a ballot yesterday at a Jerusalem polling station. (Brian Hendler)

Crackdown on illegal arms trafficking

By DAVID RUDGE

Police have uncovered a network of Israeli Arabs and Palestinians involved in illegal arms trafficking following intensive investigations that began nine months ago.

The case had been subject to a publicity ban imposed by the Tiberias Magistrates Court which was only lifted yesterday.

During the course of the inquiries, led by the head of the Ha'ammakim district's Criminal Investigations Department Supt. Eli Litman, police seized 15 different kinds of weapons.

They included eight pistols, as well as Uzi sub-machine guns and four Kalashnikov rifles. Some of the weapons apparently originated in Jordan and others in the territories.

Police sources said the indications were that the weapons were intended for criminal purposes, although the possibility of them being used in terrorist activities could not be entirely ruled out.

The price for the weapons ranged from between NIS 8,000 and NIS 10,000, with transactions apparently taking place among Israeli Arabs themselves, as well as between them and dealers in the territories.

Some 30 suspects, mainly from Kafr Kana, near Nazareth, as well as the nearby villages of Turan and Mash'had, were arrested and questioned during the course of the widespread inquiries, as well as two Palestinians.

There has been growing concern in the police and security forces about the quantity of illegal weapons that appears to be coming into the country and finding its way into the hands of Israeli Arabs and other elements.

Evidence of the proliferation and use of guns has been seen in recent clashes between family clans in Arab villages in the North in which a number of people have been killed and others wounded.

Mt. of Olives yeshiva, Arab housing allowed to expand

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

A zoning change on land owned by the Beit Orot Yeshiva on the Mount of Olives will allow the yeshiva to build housing units on the site.

The change was approved yesterday by the Interior Ministry, which also approved plans to allocate a spot on eastern side of the Mount of Olives for an Arab school, and a municipal plan to build 100 housing units for Palestinians in the adjacent A-Tur neighborhood.

Plans for the yeshiva's expansion – which is opposed by Palestinians and members of Peace Now – include building a dormitory for the 100 students there now, as well as housing units.

A municipal spokesman said the plan was first presented in 1994 to the city planning commission, which approved it in September of that year and then sent it on to the Interior Ministry, which only now approved it.

Haim Silverstein, executive director of the yeshiva, which is located next to the Mormon Center, said plans call for expanding enrollment to 250 students, and after that to enlarge the dormitory, which at present has room for 40 students, followed by housing units.

"I'd like to see on the Mount of Olives a large, vibrant, and successful neighborhood, with Jewish men, women, and children walking around safely in this area," he said. "We're returning to an area that is holy and sacred in Jewish history."

But Peace Now sees the approval as damaging relations in the city between Arabs and Israelis.

"The Interior Ministry is joining with the extreme right-wing and Ateret Cohanim to demolish the peace process totally," said spokeswoman Hagit Yaari. "This permission to build there is another step to a bloody confrontation in Jerusalem and the occupied territories."

Yaari said the land allocated for the Arab girl's school "was confiscated Arab land that is only now being turned over to build a girl's school, as part of the deal allowing the expansion of the yeshiva."

Mohammed Najib adds:

Palestinian Authority cabinet secretary Ahmed Abdul Rahman said the decision to allow the construction of some 58 apartments at Beit Orot is proof of the continued Israeli aggression and the intent to empty Jerusalem of its Arab residents. He added that it is clear that the Jerusalem Municipality supports settlement construction and is obviously implementing a government decision.

PLC Speaker Ahmed Qurei said it is inconceivable that Israel continues violating the agreements and warned that such acts will lead to violence. Recalling the outbreak of violence when construction began at Har Homa, he charged: "We will not accept that under any circumstances, and such a step will lead to violence." He called on the PA to organize protests and added: "The Israeli government should understand that, if it still wants the peace, that the peace isn't violations."

Bidding war over property near Har Homa

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Israeli, Palestinian, and Jordanian elements have all made bids for the property owned by the Greek Orthodox Church surrounding the Mar Elias Monastery adjacent to Har Homa, a senior church official said yesterday.

Metropolitan Timothy, secretary of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate, expressed indignation at a report in yesterday's *Yediot Aharonot*, which quoted him as saying the land at Mar Elias had been leased to a Canadian-based group.

"I gave no hint that the Mar Elias property has been leased or that there was any deal," Timothy said, adding that he had only described a transaction in which 16 dunams (four acres) in Jaffa belonging to the patriarchate had been leased in 1989.

Timothy also expressed indignation at veiled threats against the life of Greek Orthodox Patriarch Diodoros I and claims that the patriarch had no right to dispose of property owned by the patriarchate as he saw fit.

The paper had quoted Bassem Abu-Sharif, former spokesman to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, as saying the patriarch's life was in danger because of the sale of land belonging to the Palestinians.

Timothy said that the Patriarchate of Jerusalem is the owner of all its property and has the right to develop it for the benefit of the Church and its community.

He said that any decision taken by the patriarch would be with the approval of the church's Holy Synod.

"There have been many proposals from all sides – Israeli, Jordanian, and Palestinian – but the patriarch did not bring any

RUSSIAN PRESS REVIEW

By YOSEF BEGUN

Direct election and the constitution

In the Knesset, there are four times more parties than in the British parliament, but "we are very far from British parliamentary democracy," wrote Ya'akov Gochberg in *Vesti*.

Many of these small sectorial parties are "not political entities but lobbying groups." Consequently, our prime minister cannot carry out "logical policy but is forced to satisfy the wishes of his coalition parties which often are incompatible."

There is a permanent threat of overthrowing the government. The only way to improve the situation, said Gochberg, is "not to abolish the law of direct elections for prime minister but to change it to the American model, where the head of state, who "got his power from the people, cannot be dismissed until the end of his term and can fulfill his pre-election obligations."

Such a model will bring about a division of legislative and executive authorities, so the Knesset can attend to its primary task job of making laws. The lobbyist parties would lose their opportunity to dictate their demands to the PM and will do "the work they have to."

In *Novosti Nedeli*, Pavel Vollin expressed his opinion that separate elections of Knesset members and a prime minister presents "the essence of Israeli democracy," when the voter has the opportunity to send to the Knesset "one's own candidate: Russians, Moroccans, Orthodox."

But he also agreed that the main defect of such a system is that a premier becomes the object of manipulation. The way out of this, he wrote, is "to have a constitution which should be accepted by all nations, which will express the national interest."

The current status quo was established at the time of the creation of the state, but now Israelis live completely differently. A stable structure requires a combination of a developed democracy and strong government authority.

Yosef Mendelevich

Without the Zionist Forum - the largest organization of immigrants from the USSR, founded ten years ago - the creation of the Yisrael Ba'aliya party would have been impossible, wrote Uri Kon in *Novosti Nedeli*.

After a great success by this party in the Knesset elections, the interest in the Forum by Russian leaders of Yisrael Ba'aliya, as well as Likud, decreased. In its recent elections, Yosef Mendelevich, an active member of Mafdal, was elected president. He defeated Yuli Kosharovsky, the candidate of the joint Likud and Yisrael Ba'aliya.

The unexpected victory of Mendelevich, a popular former prisoner of Zion, was achieved by the declaration of his non-partisan position. His election was the first defeat of Yisrael Ba'aliya, which, said Kon, made their way by "using nomenclature candidates."

Mendelevich, in an interview with Stas Flax in *Novosti Nedeli*, said that as a member of Mafdal, he is willing to cooperate with everyone. He stressed the importance of non-partisan grassroot organizations which "will not give parties the power to rule the country." The main task of the Forum, he said, is to "fight for civil and social rights, strengthen ties within Russian immigrant society, and increase education of Jewish as well as general cultural values."

Post-Zionism

The global problems of modern mankind demand convergence of all nations in a unified world society. "The Jewish national idea of Zionism seems like an anachronism in light of this prevailing tendency," wrote Abram Solomonik in *Vesti*. It raises a crucial question, he added, of whether "we have to build national ghetto as it was in galut" or to build a "modern democratic state oriented in cooperation with other countries."

The nationalism that "caused two world wars leads to the full destruction of humankind," said the author. Even if the Jewish national idea and Jewish religion were the only anchors for our revival in 2,000 years of wandering, now they are "counterproductive to the natural development of the process of our national history."

Alexander Yacobson, a member of the board of Meretz, presented a different view in *Vesti*, saying that the historic mission of Zionism will not be fulfilled unless the Jewish Diaspora keeps its vital ties with Israel.

He insisted that Zionist ideology is not contradictory to democracy and stressed that classical religious Zionism "was more democratic and tolerant" than the current Israeli national-religious camp.

It "did not claim that the achievements of modern civilization, such as personal freedom and equality of rights, are 'goyishe gadgets,'" Yacobson wrote.

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NEWS *in brief*

Bill would oblige acting to save a life

The Knesset Law Committee yesterday approved the final draft of a bill obliging an individual to help any person he comes across whose life is under immediate threat.

"The bill establishes a new and positive norm in keeping with Jewish morality, whereby a person may not ignore the distress of his fellow man and that doing so constitutes a violation of the law," said committee chairman Hanan Porat (NRP), who initiated the bill.

According to the proposal, a person will be seen to have upheld the law if he alerts the relevant authorities, such as the police or Magen David Adom. *Dan Izenberg*

State appeals election cheat's sentence

The State Attorney yesterday appealed to the Jerusalem District Court against the allegedly light sentence handed out to Yoseph Hager, who was convicted of cheating in the 1996 national elections and escaping arrest.

Last month, Jerusalem Magistrate's Court sentenced Hager to three months in jail and six months suspended. Hager was convicted of dropping two ballots each into the ballot box the vote for prime minister and the vote the Knesset list. When a policeman detained him, dozens of supporters, who were waiting outside the polling station, surrounded the policeman and used force to extricate Hager.

In the appeal, the State Attorney wrote that the law provides for a punishment of up to two years for Hager's act, and asked the court to increase the sentence to as close to the maximum as possible. *Dan Izenberg*

Three-day remand for lawyer Nurit Buchnick

The Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday extended by three days the remand of attorney Nurit Buchnik, who is suspected of conspiracy in the attempted murder on May 5 of gangland figure Roni Harari in a Givatayim cafe.

Judge Nira Lidsky said that she had taken the suspect's poor health into account in deciding that she should be held only until Thursday.

Buchnik, 28, of Moshav Zeitan, is suspected of passing messages from gang members to her boyfriend Yitzhak (Hishi) Hadif of the Pardess Katz gang, when she visited him in jail. Hadif is allegedly behind the attempted murder. *Itim*

Secondary school teachers cancel strike

The secondary teachers' union said yesterday it was canceling a strike planned for today. The strike had been announced a day after Sunday's strike by elementary school teachers.

Ron Erez, the chairman of the Secondary School Teachers' Union, said he decided to call off today's action after he was assured by Education Ministry officials that there were no plans to fire hundreds of teachers as the union had feared. *Itim*

Eitan's helicopter makes emergency landing

A helicopter transporting Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan was forced to make an emergency landing yesterday near Kibbutz Ashdot Ya'acov due to a malfunction.

Eitan was on his way to Jerusalem from a meeting in the North with Jordan's Agriculture Minister. The flight was resumed after repairs were done on the helicopter. *Itim*

Health fund must pay NIS 2.6m. for delay

Kupat Holim Clalit will pay NIS 2.6 million in compensation to an eight-year-old girl who suffered cerebral palsy as a result of delay in performing a cesarean section. Her mother had a high-risk pregnancy due to high blood pressure. The Haifa District Court yesterday found in favor of the family and against Clalit's Ha'emek Hospital in Afula. The family, whose daughter suffered 100% disability, had originally demanded NIS 13 million; the reduced award was reached by compromise. *Judy Siegel*

Driver fined NIS 3,000 for cigarette butt

The driver of a private bus was fined NIS 3,000 yesterday by the Haifa Magistrate's Court for throwing a lit cigarette butt onto the road. A representative of the Environment Ministry asked the judge to impose a severe penalty, arguing the court must deter such a dangerous, widespread practice that can harm pedestrians as well as the environment. *Itim*

Italy marks 150 years of Jewish civil rights

The Italian Parliament yesterday hosted celebrations for the 150th anniversary of the granting of civil and political rights to Jews and Waldensian Protestants in Italy.

Luciano Violante, the president of the House of Deputies, said that a secular state "is the necessary premise for pluralism."

He said that today's challenge was to "guarantee the freedom of all religions plus individuals who have no religion."

The Union of Italian Jewish Communities is scheduled to holds its quadrennial congress in Rome on June 21-23. *Lisa Palmieri-Billig*

HU to open engineering school

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem announced yesterday it will open an engineering school in the 1999-2000 academic year, becoming the first academic general engineering school of its type in Jerusalem.

Hebrew University President Menachem Magidor said the school would concentrate on electronics, computers and communications.

MKs fail to bridge gap on conversion

LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee yesterday failed to reach a breakthrough in the conversion dispute, despite the efforts of its chairwoman, Naomi Blumenthal.

"Without dialogue, there can be only losers, Israel and the Diaspora," said Blumenthal. She devoted most of her comments to trying to prod the Chief Rabbinate toward direct dialogue with the non-orthodox streams of Judaism while, at the same time, seeking to sway the Conservative movement to halt its legal action on the issue.

Most committee members said they are opposed to the suggestion of Alex Lubotzky (Third Way), Roman Bronfman (Yisrael Ba'aliya) and Eliezer Zandberg (Tsomet) under which the compromise of the Ne'eman Committee proposals would be made a law for a two-year period during which the sides could try to reach an agreed upon solution.

Under these proposals there would be conversion colleges with a staff from different streams, but only orthodox conversion in special religious courts at the end of the studies.

Lubotzky himself described his bill as "a last resort" if no other agreement can be reached.

Finance Minister Yaacov Neeman whose committee drew up the proposals said he is still trying to reach renewed dialogue "in an attempt to get [the different sides] back to the negotiating table and not the courts or legislative body."

"Without dialogue, there is no peace," Neeman said.

"Don't turn the issue into a political one," he added. "This is an issue which touches on the essence of our existence as a Jewish people."

Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Arye Gamliel (Shas) said the only solution is to pass the conversion bill, anchoring in law the status quo of orthodox-only conversions in Israel.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said the Neeman proposals "were rotten from the start" but he had been willing to accept them despite their contradicting Meretz's outlook.

He warned that the conversion bill being demanded by the religious parties – requiring orthodox only conversions in Israel – "will never be."

Philip Meltzer, president of the Association of Reform Zionists of America, said the "Neeman proposals no longer exist," because the concept of dialogue is being ignored by the chief rabbinate.

"I plead and implore you not to drive a wedge between Israel and US Jewry," he said.

Conservative leader Ehud Bandel said his movement would be willing to freeze its petition to the High Court to recognize non-orthodox conversion carried out in Israel only if the chief rabbinate is willing to enter a full dialogue with representatives of the non-orthodox streams.

But Menachem Janowsky, the chief rabbinate's representative, said the Reform and Conservative movements are torpedoing the Neeman Committee proposals because they thought the rabbinate would not accept them and are now looking for a way out by blaming the orthodox establishment.

In other MK responses to the conversion bill, Ophir Pines (Labor) called on the government to halt the legislation. MK Yuri Stern (Yisrael Ba'aliya) said the only solution is to eliminate the category stating religion in identity cards.

Poll: 54% support non-Orthodox conversions

Fifty-four percent of the public support non-Orthodox conversions, while 38% feel that only the Orthodox interpretation is valid, according to a survey conducted by Senate, which prepares information for MKs and works alongside the Israel Institute for Social and Economic Research. It said that it polled a representative sample of 503 adult Israeli Jews. The margin of error was ±4%.

The survey, conducted by Dr. Gad Barzilai of Tel Aviv University, found that among the 54% who object to Orthodox exclusivity 32% support giving a potential convert the freedom to choose which stream of Judaism to follow, although only 10% themselves support Reform or Conservative conversions. Another 10% said they support having secular or civil control over the matter. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Remembering Menachem Begin

MK Ze'ev Begin (Likud) signs a dedication scroll yesterday at the cornerstone laying ceremony for the Begin Heritage Center in Jerusalem's Talbiyeh quarter, where materials related to his father's life work will be enshrined. Begin sat in a back row, far from Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and other VIPs. (Text: Itim; photo: Isaac Harari)

Neeman to Reform leaders: God gave the Torah to us all

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman yesterday told a group of Reform leaders from the US that God gave the Torah to the Jewish people and this could not be changed.

Neeman, who headed the committee set up to seek a solution to the issue of registering Reform and Conservative converts in Israel as Jews, said that the committee had not been a failure.

The fact that Jews with differing views had sat together and discussed their differences was in itself an accomplishment, he argued.

"God created us all. The Torah was given to us by God and it can't be changed by human beings," Neeman told the group.

When asked later how, in the light of what he had said, he related to Jews who did not accept Halacha, Neeman replied that no could fulfill the 613 commandments given by God on Mt. Sinai. Observing the commandments, he said "is something between me and my God."

Halacha, he said, was what unified the Jewish people.

While criticizing Reform rabbis for "adding to the flames" of the conversion controversy, Neeman also admitted that he was not entirely happy with the Chief Rabbinical Council, which had rejected his committee's proposed joint conversion institute and dismissed any cooperation with the non-Orthodox.

Neeman also criticized the Chief Rabbinate for not finding a solution to the problem of tens of thousands of immigrants from the CIS who are not Jews according to Halacha.

"Unfortunately, the rabbinical world did not tackle this issue. The Chief Rabbinate closed its eyes to this issue," Neeman said.

Conservatives protest Lubotsky proposal

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK – The rabbinical wing of the Conservative movement yesterday "strongly protested" the government's decision to reintroduce conversion legislation, and was skeptical of the so-called Lubotsky measure.

In a resolution passed unanimously by its executive board, the Conservative movement's Rabbinical Assembly also called on Labor, Yisrael Ba'aliya, the Third Way, Tsomet and "many MKs in Likud" to honor their commitments to the Conservative movement and oppose "any bill that would legislate an Orthodox monopoly in conversion."

The assembly represents 1,400 rabbis in 800 congregations around the world.

In a meeting yesterday with Shmuel Siso, the consul general to New York, Conservative Rabbi Reuven Hammer of Jerusalem complained that the Israeli government "had gone out of its ways to discredit" the Masorti movement with a "disinformation" campaign.

He also cast doubt on the value of the Lubotsky legislation, which would implement the Neeman Committee's recommendations on conversion.

"You cannot legislate attitudes," Hammer said.

The committee had called on the Chief Rabbinate to be "flexible." "How do you legislate flexibility?"

IAF grounds pilot for bombing road

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The air force has grounded an F-15 pilot after he mistakenly released two cement-filled training bombs in the Negev. The 500 kilogram bombs hit the main road between Shizafon and Tzchor, causing no injuries or damage.

The IAF confirmed the incident and said that the air force had set up a inquiry. They said the pilot would be grounded until the investigation is over.

The incident follows a number of near-accidents which could have had tragic results.

Last week, a Bell 212 nearly hit a CH-53 transport helicopter at the Mahanayim air base near Rosh Pina. A half hour later, at the air base, a different CH-53 nearly landed on top of another CH-53 chopper filled with 35 paratroopers.

The IAF set up an inquiry into those incidents.

Yossi Peled, a former OC Northern Command, said that the number of accidents could be reduced if the IDF treated near-accidents with the same degree of severity as those that are fatal.

"Sometimes there is almost an accident and it is not treated under the heading of an accident and the results are terrible," Peled said. "These things have to be treated without mercy. The responsibility of commanders overrides being nice and they have to deal with a near accident the same as they would an accident."

Dialogue with the Diaspora

An Internet dialogue on the conversion bill and Jewish pluralism has been launched by Beit Hatefutsoth. The virtual symposium marks the Diaspora museum's 20th anniversary and is meant to encourage Israelis and Diaspora Jews to have a dialogue. The address of the site is http://www.bh.org.il. *Judy Siegel*

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ZOA escalates campaign against US Holocaust scholar

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK – The Zionist Organization of America on Monday appeared to be escalating its campaign against an American Holocaust scholar, even as it came under fire for "willful misrepresentation" and "character assassination."

ZOA President Morton Klein has criticized the incoming director of the research center at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, John Roth, for a 1988 opinion piece in the *Los Angeles Times* in which Roth said the Palestinians "are being forced into a tragic part too much like the one played by the European Jews 50 years ago."

Roth, chairman of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Claremont McKenna College in California, was referring to the expulsion of the Jews from Germany, not the genocide that followed.

Angered by Roth's analogy, Klein suggested he be ousted. "According to the writings we have read, he seems unfit for the position of Holocaust studies director," Klein said in a weekend interview.

"There are other things he's written that are very troubling," Klein said late Monday, hinting these would be revealed in a few days.

However, he acknowledged that he was unfamiliar with the corpus of Roth's work and was surprised to learn that Roth had written some two dozen books.

When he first criticized Roth last week, Klein said he had read only the 1988 opinion piece and "skimmed" one of Roth's books on Auschwitz, whose title he could not recall.

Several Holocaust scholars furiously rejected what they called censorship and a "litmus test" for US federal employees. The museum is a federal institution.

"Is there a political requirement, a litmus test, for service in the federal government that you have to toe the line of Morton Klein?" asked one Holocaust scholar.

In a press release received Monday, Klein printed segments of published comments from several Holocaust scholars and Jewish communal leaders in support of his criticism of Roth's opinion.

However, several scholars fumed that he was using partial – and misleading – quotes and distorted their intent.

The selective use of quotes is "a deliberate attempt at character assassination," said Michael Berenbaum, former director of research at the museum and now the head of the Spielberg Visual History Foundation.

"That press release takes my words out of context. I am convinced he willfully misrepresented what I said," said Deborah Lipstadt, chair of the graduate program in Jewish Studies at Emory University in Atlanta.

"It's outrageous."

Klein's press release quoted Lipstadt, a member of the museum's governing council, as telling the Jewish weekly newspaper *The Forward* last week "that Roth's *Los Angeles Times* op-ed was 'odious.'"

However, *The Forward* reported that Lipstadt, "said that while the comparison in the op-ed piece was 'odious,' the choice of Mr. Roth is 'a wonderful appointment.' "She said Mr. Roth 'had incredible character and integrity' and also praised his devotion to the topic of the Holocaust. 'I hate the idea that he is being tarred and feathered,'" *The Forward* quoted Lipstadt as saying.

Klein said Monday that it was not unfair to omit her support for Roth. "I thought it was fair to say that Deborah Lipstadt condemned John Roth's article," he said.

When pressed, he said he understood that readers might get the impression that Roth was being attacked, both by ZOA and Lipstadt.

"I was trying to focus on the article," Klein said. "If that is fair or not fair, I don't know. If people were misconstruing what I say, I certainly didn't intend that."

Judges reject Dotan's bid for release

By DAN IZENBERG

A panel of three High Court justices yesterday rejected the petition of Rami Dotan, who wanted an army committee to reconsider its rejection of his appeal to be released from prison for health reasons.

Dotan, who held the rank of brigadier-general and was in charge of acquisitions for the air force, was sentenced to 13 years in jail on several counts, including accepting bribes and breach of trust.

In a unanimous decision, the justices ruled that Dotan and his attorney, Daniel Friedman, had failed to persuade them that the committee's decision was grossly unreasonable.

They added that they did not see their role as taking the place of the committee and weighing the merits of each party in the case.

Friedman said afterwards that he was sorry "the court did not consider all the aspects of the case. I think we explained all of the shortcomings in the committee's decision."

Two years ago, after being admitted to Assaf Harofeh Hospital following what may have been a stroke, Dotan asked to be released from jail. Several months later, he was hospitalized a second time.

After months of deliberation, during which doctors testified to the gravity of his condition, a three-man committee decided to release him. The doctors said his condition was characterized by high blood pressure which could not be brought under control.

The decision was greeted with public outrage. Four people petitioned the High Court of Justice, which ordered the committee to suspend its decision, resume deliberations, and to allow the Judge Advocate-General to testify and question witnesses.

In March, 1998, the committee reversed its decision, and ruled against Dotan's request. In response, Dotan petitioned the High Court of Justice.

Friedman's case was based on the fact that the surgeon brought in by the army to examine Dotan and provide a medical opinion after the committee resumed its deliberations had not studied the hospital records documenting the two incidents which may have been strokes.

The army's surgeon, Dr. Oded Abramsky, said that on the basis of his findings, he believed Dotan had not suffered a stroke.

Friedman said he had no choice but to accept the court's decision because there was no higher instance of appeal. However, Dotan has the right to appeal to the committee every six months. Furthermore, he will have completed two-thirds of his sentence next year and will then be able to request a release for good behavior.

A jubilee hike

Ninety members of the Jewish National Fund from Great Britain launched a 50-mile (80 kilometer) hike yesterday from Mount Hermon to the Sea of Galilee in honor of Israel's jubilee anniversary. The trek is expected to raise $150,000 for the fund.

(Joe Malcolm)

Pfizer to apply for local Viagra license

By JUDY SIEGEL

Pfizer's local representative plans to apply for a license for Viagra, the anti-impotence pill, in two weeks, but it is expected to take two months before the drug can be obtained by regular prescription, Batya Haran, the Health Ministry's pharmaceutical chief, said yesterday.

Currently Viagra is available only as a personal import, requiring the approval of a district health officer. Once it is registered by the Health Ministry, it may be purchased by prescription alone.

Experts told a the Knesset Science and Technology Committee yesterday that the drug is meant only for men who suffer from physiological impotence, and not as an aphrodisiac.

They said that the pill should not be taken by women, and that laboratory studies have shown it could cause blindness in offspring.

Health Ministry director-general Prof. Gabi Barabash said Viagra would not be covered by the health funds, as it would be too expensive.

Officials from the Association of Health Service Consumers noted that the health funds aren't covering the costs of even several life-saving drugs.

Dr. Haim Perry, a urologist at Ichilov Hospital and the Zamenhof Clinic in Tel Aviv, reported that "every second man over 60 comes in and asks for a prescription for Viagra."

Committee chairwoman Dalia Itzik urged the launching of a public information campaign to explain the risks of Viagra to heart patients.

Almost a people's festival

By HELEN KAYE

This year's festival is almost a people's Israel Festival. In the past, the program has suffered from an elitist image, bolstered no little by pretty elitist prices, but this year there are about 10 popular entertainment events. Among them are performances designed to attract those who don't usually go to festivals – such as taxi drivers.

"The Festival? Nah, I don't go," one driver said.

"Did you go to the tribute to Naomi Shemer?"

He had, with his wife and son, and was surprised to hear that the celebration had been part of the Israel Festival. The Sultan's Pool was filled almost to capacity both evenings and the the tickets were an affordable NIS 40 - 60.

An evening of Yiddish and Ladino songs cost NIS 40. A performance by the multi-ethnic Yussuf Ve'ehad band ran NIS 56 - 90 per ticket.

Other popular events, albeit more expensive, have included Greek singer Eleftheria Arvanitaki, and the Argentinian dance company,Tango por Dos.

The Canadian circus, Cirque Eloize and sunrise concert of oriental or Mediterranean music are still to come.

Multiculturalism, and its attendant expansion of audience base have been a deliberate strategy over the last four years for the festival's general manager Yossi Talgan and artistic director Micha Lewensohn.

The festival has also expanded its outreach. This year, said Talgan, some 10,000 Arab and Jewish youth from all over the country will pay from NIS 30 - 70 to attend events versus 6,000 in 1997.

The circus, the sunrise concert and the Sao Paulo Ballet from Brazil are popular choices. Additionally, this year soldiers in uniform get in free on a space available basis and every day, thanks to the Friends of the Israel Festival, pensioners from Jerusalem's poorer neighborhoods are bused to the free events on the Jerusalem Theater plaza and get free cake and coffee.

Talgan also said there were plans for about 400 new immigrants from the CIS to see a special performance of *Brothers and Sisters* by the Maly Theater of St. Petersburg.

"But no matter what we do, there will always be those whom the festival doesn't interest," said Talgan.

New heart procedure used for first time in Israel

By JUDY SIEGEL

A 76-year-old man whose heart was so obstructed by swollen muscle tissue that he was unable to walk two steps, will now be mobile, thanks to a new procedure involving the injection of alcohol into the heart via a catheter.

He was the first patient in Israel to undergo the one-hour procedure, which was developed by Dr. Antonio Colombo of Milan.

The treatment was performed at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital and beamed by cable to the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, where hundreds of participants at the hospital's Third International Symposium on Cardiology and Cardio-thoracic Surgery were watching.

The patient, whose in-hospital recovery will take just four days, has suffered from symptoms of hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy for years.

Caused by a genetic defect, it is often the reason for sudden death in young athletes unaware of the condition.

In this elderly patient's case, said Dr. Yaron Almagor, head of the hospital's catheterization unit, it was kept under control by drugs, but they finally lost their efficacy, and he was confined to a wheelchair.

"The genetic defect caused an obstruction of the part of the left ventricle leading to the aorta, because the muscle tissue swelled," Almagor explained. This condition causes fainting, dizziness, pain and even sudden death due to irregular heartbeat.

The alcohol kills the swollen cells, leaving room for blood in the left ventricle that can pass freely into the aorta and the rest of the body.

Other demonstrations performed in front of the cameras at the symposium yesterday and Monday included the replacement of a defective mitral valve using robotic arms and minimal incisions into the chest; the insertion of a supportive stent into the renal artery; and a bypass operation that doesn't require a heart-lung machine.

Plan drawn up to crack down on hospital violence

By JUDY SIEGEL

People suspected of attacking medical staffers will be arrested and tried immediately, Health Ministry director-general Prof. Gabi Barabash and Police Inspector-General Yehuda Wilk have agreed.

The ministry and the police are in the final stages of preparing a plan for discouraging hospital violence which has been on the rise recently, with half a dozen attacks reported in emergency rooms and clinics in as many weeks.

The latest case involved a doctor at Kupat Holim Clalit's Zevulun Clinic in Haifa who had a tooth knocked out on Monday and two others damaged when a chair was thrown at him.

A woman clerk who rushed to the physician's aid was beaten as well. The attacker, a 25-year-old from the Haifa area, was arrested and brought before a judge.

According to Clalit, the suspect had been a patient at the clinic but had been told that he couldn't continue to receive medical care there. He got angry and attacked a female doctor; when the male physician came to her assistance, the assailant hit him with a chair.

The ministry said that it hopes that quick police action would help reduce the incidence of violence against doctors. Reuven Cohen, the ministry's chief security officer, said that a proposal for fighting hospital violence has been drawn up following a visit by investigators to emergency rooms in various hospitals. The proposal is expected to be presented tomorrow to the relevant authorities.

The plan recommends posting police officers or civil guards in some emergency rooms.

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza had initially spoken out against stationing police at the hospitals.

In addition, the ministry is likely to agree to install emergency call buttons and may also supply medical staffers with cans of mace spray which could be used to temporarily disarm an attacker.

Cohen welcomed the police's new aggressiveness in bringing suspected attackers of medical personnel to court.

Biotech conference planned in Jerusalem

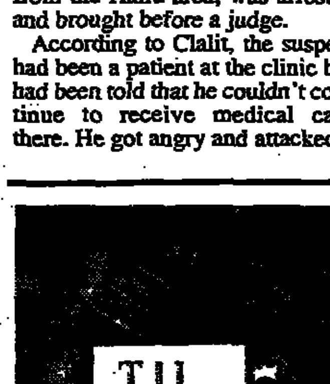
By JUDY SIEGEL

Genetic engineers abroad have developed plants such as tobacco and banana to produce vaccines against human diseases, including hepatitis B.

The topic will be taken up at the International Conference on Biotechnology and Tissue Culture of Plants planned for next week at the Jerusalem International Convention Center.

Some 1,000 scientists from 55 countries are expected to attend the conference organized by the International Association for Plant Tissue Cultures headed by Prof. Arye Altman, head of the Warburg Center for Agricultural Biotechnology of the Hebrew University Agriculture Faculty in Rehovot.

ENTERTAIN IN STYLE



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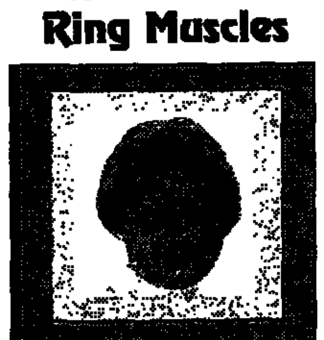

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Prof. David Avnir and **Prof. Michael Ottolenghi**, of the Institute of Chemistry; **Prof. Sergei Braun**, of the Silberman Institute of Life Sciences; **Prof. Ovadia Lev**, of the Herrmann Graduate School of Applied Science, for the development of **reactive organic sol-gel ceramic materials.**

Jehuda Basnizki, of the Silberman Institute of Life Sciences, for the development of **novel seed-planted hybird varieties of the globe artichoke.**

Prof. Nissim Garti and **Dr. Yuri Feldman** of the Casali Institute of Applied Chemistry, for the development of **the time domain dielectric spectrometer.**

Prof. Joseph Hirschberg, of the Silberman Institute of Life Sciences, for the development of **genetic engineering of astaxanthin production in transgenic plants.**

Prof. Itamar Willner, of the Institute of Chemistry, for the development of **new biosensors.**

Galen Marquis, of the Institute of Jewish Studies, fot the production of **the Hebrew University Bible Project.**

Amir Zuker, of the Faculty of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Quality Sciences, for the development of **transgenic carnation plants with novel characteristics.**

Alexey Kamyshny, of the Casali Institute of Applied Chemistry, for the development of **form 3 aspartame.**

Prof. Michael Schieber, Dr. Jacob Nissenbaum, Dr. Leonid Melkhov and **Asaf Zuck**, of the Herrmann Graduate School of Applied Science, for the development of **polycrystalline hg 12 x-ray detector plates for digital radiology.**

Eating hot stones

Column One

Thomas O'Dwyer

Even if the Serbs or the ethnic Albanians capture the province of Kosovo, all they will have is Kosovo. Nice scenery, but it scarcely seems worth dying or murdering for.

This is the Balkans. It is still a world of the semi-literate, swaggering macho – the "palikari" of the Greeks, exemplified by Zorba of the Nikos Kazantzakis novel, and by a host of leering bandits unknown to the outside world, but legends in their remote valleys.

Most wanna-be Zorbas forget that the real Zorba died in a hovel, in exile, in 1909, his world already passe.

There is an Albanian equivalent to the American cowboy philosophy of "a man's gotta do what a man's gotta do." It goes: "Sometimes a man must eat hot stones." There's a lot of indigestion in the Balkans.

The European Union has again imposed its on-off sanctions on the bloody maniacs who run Serbia, led by everyone's old friend, Slob Milosevic. They might as well slap Milosevic on the wrist with a pink lily. Sanctions on the Balkan bully have always been as full of holes as the golf courses frequented by European ministers. And this time the Europeans have built in their own official hole by exempting Montenegro, the other half of what's left of Yugoslavia and federated with Serbia.

Yugo where?

A brief refresher course is required here, based on the number of people still asking "Where's Kosovo?" or "Why is it fighting Eritrea or whatever...." As simply as possible, follow me:

Yugoslavia broke up. Out of the wreckage, one sane, civilized and peaceful state emerged up north. We never hear of it. It's called Slovenia. (No, not Slovakia – Slovenia.) Down south, another is almost the same, but it remains iffy. It's called Macedonia. The Greeks hate it for that name, which is really the name of their legendary northern province.

All the rest are lunatic in one way or another, and their petty violent hatreds have brought Europe one of the nastiest little wars since Nazi times. That's Croatia, Bosnia and Serbia. We'll gloss quietly over the fact that Bosnia is now broken up into provinces as well.

Serbia thinks its name is Greater Serbia, and Milosevic thinks he's the Serb messiah, except he doesn't talk the talk of peace and redemption. In fact its official name remains Yugoslavia, made up of the provinces of Serbia and Montenegro – a harmless mountain stronghold too small to go it alone.

Cleansing fields

In the south of the rump Yugoslavia is the province of Kosovo, which is more than 90 percent ethnic Albanian. However, since the Serbs think all Yugoslavia is Serbia (and the rest of the Balkans is Greater Serbia) Milosevic has little time for bothersome ethnic fiddle-faddle, so he has come up with a new concept (ethnic cleansing) for an old crime against humanity (killing people we don't like).

Kosovo had a large measure of autonomy until 1989, when Milosevic removed it. Now that he and his Bosnian Serb indicted war criminals are no longer busy murdering in Bosnia, he has turned his attention to the untidy situation of 90 percent non-Serbs in Kosovo. Since Kosovo is legally part of Yugoslavia, NATO cannot easily intervene as it did (almost too late) in Bosnia.

As one might say in NATO-speak, "Kosovo is an internal-situation situation." So why do Serbs care anyway? A province that is solidly 90 percent other people, and other religion, and other language, is by definition de facto autonomous. So why not make it peacefully de jure, and boast to the world about living in harmony, cultural diversity and all that feel-good positive stuff? That would be fine, if Milosevic was a man from Mars rather than a follower of the war-god Mars.

A Serb will (and does) explain to an Israeli that Kosovo is the Serb Jerusalem, so sacred that national survival depends on it. Don't confuse a Serb ultra-nationalist by saying you thought that was Sarajevo.

Lazar's revenge

Kosovo, however, was the scene of a great event in Serb history – a crushing defeat that began 500 years of Turkish rule.

In 1389, the Serbs' greatest hero, Prince Lazar, was defeated by the Ottoman Turks at the Field of Blackbirds – Kosovo Polje. Legend says the Prophet Elijah appeared to Lazar the night before battle and offered him a choice: a passing earthly kingdom, or an eternal one.

Next morning, the Ottoman general also offered Lazar a choice: surrender his army or fight to the death. He died, the Serbs lost, their aristocracy was wiped out. Pilgrims were still visiting Lazar's tomb at Gracanica in recent more peaceful times.

It's a familiar story. Kosovo is about revenge. The Field of Blackbirds was 1389, Milosevic absorbed Kosovo into Serbia in 1989.

The Albanian Moslems of Kosovo are the legacy of Ottoman rule in the same way that the Unionists of Northern Ireland are a legacy of British rule. But the Dublin government is not invading the North, burning Protestant homes to the ground, killing the male inhabitants and driving the rest into exile.

The Albanian proverb says a man must be willing to eat hot stones for what he believes in. Milosevic believes in the Serb right to force-feed those who are different.

How corrupt can you get?

During his five-year reign, the late Sani Abacha plundered billions of dollars from Nigeria, pushing Africa's most populous country closer than ever to economic collapse

By JAMES RUPERT

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast – In nearly five secretive years in power, Nigeria's General Sani Abacha built a reputation for authoritarian, sometimes brutal rule. He was less known – but in terms of his legacy to Nigeria, perhaps more important – for overseeing a web of corruption that Nigerians and oil-industry sources say has plundered billions of dollars from the country.

Abacha died Monday at age 54. While he ruled Nigeria from a fortified presidential villa in Nigeria's capital, the sources said, he and a circle of aides and business partners tapped virtually every stage of the oil business, Nigeria's most important industry and the source of 80 percent of its government revenue. They took kickbacks from foreign companies for licenses to search for oil in the basin and delta of the Niger River or offshore. They got bribes from construction firms that won contracts to build drilling rigs and pipelines.

And, in a business that generated a daily river of cash, Abacha and several associates supervised every sale of Nigerian crude by the state-owned oil company, the sources said, sluicing off an unknown percentage of the $10 billion per year that Nigeria earns on average in crude oil sales.

In recent years, Abacha, his allies and top officials have added a new form of corruption that is killing the Nigerian economy: the siphoning of money used by Nigeria's oil refineries to turn crude into more valuable gasoline. Finance and Oil Ministry officials argue openly in the Nigerian press over who has diverted more than $2 billion from the four state-owned refineries in recent years, but the refineries' ruin creates an artificial fuel shortage for this nation of more than 100 million people.

Nigeria is thus forced to import refined fuels such as gasoline and, traders say, Abacha and his cronies control that trade too, skimming off a percentage. The government subsidizes the sale price of gasoline and other fuels, but Abacha loyalists among the officer corps and civil service divert much of the available supply to sell on the black market or to neighboring countries. The fuel shortage has forced the economy into near depression, leaving millions of people poorer and sicker.

"In Nigeria, corruption isn't part of government, it's the object of government," said a Nigerian political scientist who asked not to be named. For 28 of the 38 years since Nigeria gained independence from Britain, the country has been ruled by the military, and Nigerians say corruption has grown steadily. For the past two years, Transparency International, a Berlin-based organization that monitors corruption, has conducted surveys of businessmen that have proclaimed Nigeria the world's most corrupt place to do business.

Abacha managed to avoid broad publicity concerning his corruption partly by keeping a low profile abroad; his face was ubiquitous on Nigerian television but little known internationally. (AP)

Since the growth of Nigeria's oil industry in the 1970s, military rulers have controlled the trade. But where earlier rulers doled out the graft to key supporters, "Abacha has increasingly monopolized the trade himself," said John Bearman, a London-based oil industry analyst. "There is no deal that does not go through the presidential villa."

Under Abacha, corruption took Nigeria further into economic collapse than in the past. Besides the collapse in fuel distribution, the telephone network is decaying. The electrical grid is failing.

Almost no part of Lagos – the steaming, teeming financial and commercial capital – gets electricity all day, and vast tracts of the city of eight million never get power at all.

Business is mired by a thousand such failures, and unemployment is estimated by analysts to be at least 25 percent. Millions of Nigerians survive on ingenuity and doggedness as street vendors, curbside fix-it men, prostitutes, and subsistence farmers.

Abacha avoided broad publicity concerning his corruption partly by keeping a low profile abroad. His face was ubiquitous on Nigerian television and in government publications but little known internationally.

"He is a recluse," a Western diplomat said in Lagos last month.

"He seldom leaves Aso Rock (the presidential villa), and he says very little in public for a head of state."

Abacha and his entourage "live a pretty weird lifestyle," said one former trader who has dealt in oil with Abacha's family. He and others told of traders arriving in Abuja, the capital, and waiting at a luxury hotel for several days before being summoned – often after midnight – to the presidential villa to sign contracts with Abacha's aides. Abacha "works all night and sleeps all day," said the former trader, who asked not to be named. "If you didn't get your deal done by 6 a.m., you'd have to go back."

Nigerians and international economists say Abacha appears to have hidden his wealth well. Nigerian journalists who have investigated corruption say he appears to have particular business interests in the Persian Gulf region, and the so-called "tiger" economies of Asia and Brazil.

Much of the oil that Nigeria pumps each day goes to the major international oil companies – Shell, Mobil, Chevron and others – that operate the oil fields. But the largest single share goes to Nigeria's state oil company, which, under the direction of Abacha's camp, sells its oil to independent traders.

According to official announcements of oil sales and reporting by he London-based oil newsletter Energy Compass, Nigeria's main trading partners in the Abacha era have been the London-based firms Arcadia and Addax, and the Swiss-based company, Glencore, which was under the control of Marc Rich, an American commodities dealer.

Abacha's predecessor, Gen. Ibrahim Babangida, "doled out the contracts" to a wide circle of supporters, allowing them to take commissions from oil traders, said Patrick Smith, editor of the London-based newsletter Africa Confidential.

When the 1991 Gulf War drove oil prices upward, Nigeria earned a windfall that never made it to government coffers. Soon after taking power, as he wooed political support, Abacha named a commission headed by Nigerian economist Pius Okigbo to investigate.

Okigbo reported that $12.2 billion in oil earnings had disappeared between 1990 and 1994. But no one was ever prosecuted.

The former trader, a European, said he participated in three oil purchases in recent years – technically from Nigeria's state oil company, but negotiated with Abacha aides at the presidential villa.

Each contract specified a "commission" to be paid to a specific beneficiary, he said.

He declined to name the beneficiaries on the contracts he helped negotiate. He said other traders had noted that sometimes the beneficiary is a well-known Nigerian, and at other times "it's a completely unknown person" whom traders believe is a front for someone else. He said the contracts he dealt with ordered the commissions paid to bank accounts in Singapore, Bermuda and Switzerland.

Kickbacks paid by traders are so high that they "can't make a profit selling the oil on the spot market," said Bearman, the London-based analyst. Instead, "they make their money by buying huge quantities of crude, using it to manipulate the futures market," he said.

The trade in refined products is even more corrupt, sources said.

"The government is deliberately keeping our own refineries shut down and starving our economy for fuel," said a Nigerian oil industry analyst in Lagos who spoke on condition he not be named.

Nigerian journalists, who often are jailed for reporting on corruption, are careful about what they publish about the gasoline scam. A trade journal, *Nigeria's Oil and Gas Monthly*, noted that Nigeria has announced plans to spend $600 million to import refined fuels between January and September. "Paradoxically... less than half of that amount would have breathed life into two of the four" Nigerian refineries, it said. "The fear, as always, is that those who perennially benefit from the state of the... refineries will do and pay everything to ensure that the status quo remains," the journal said.

Unlike the late Zairian strongman Mobutu Sese Seko, who flaunted palaces and villas he owned throughout Europe and elsewhere, Abacha has revealed no foreign assets. But in Abuja, Nigerian journalists and business sources said the Abacha family is known to own numerous businesses and properties.

Abacha's oldest son, Ibrahim, was the family's main business manager until he was killed in a plane crash in 1996, the sources said.

Nigerian journalists and business sources in Abuja and the northern city of Kano said the Abacha family keeps palatial private residences in both cities. The family's home in Kano is concealed far behind fences and soldiers standing guard and "is truly opulent and spectacular," said a source who visited the home a few years ago.

(Washington Post)

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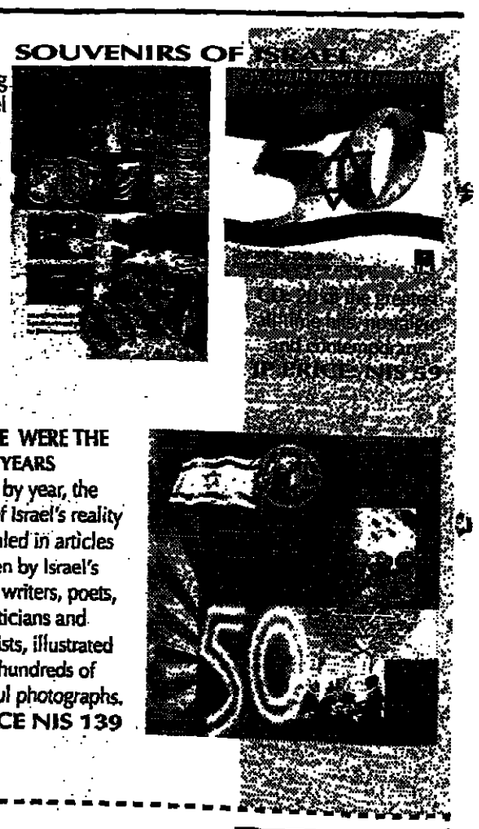

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US joins EU in freezing Serbia investments

By PATRICK WORSNIP

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The US decided on Monday to impose an assets freeze and an investment ban on Serbia, hours after the European Union did likewise, because of Belgrade's crackdown on Kosovo Albanians, US officials said.

The State Department also announced formal US support for a proposed British draft of a UN Security Council resolution that would implicitly authorize military action if necessary against Yugoslavia to stop the violence in Kosovo.

Clashes between Serb forces and Albanian gunmen have killed at least 250 people in Kosovo since February. While no major power supports Kosovo independence, the West is pressing Serbia to restore autonomy, suspended in 1989, to the province.

Big powers had agreed an assets freeze and investment ban last month but later suspended them after Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic opened talks with Ibrahim Rugova, leader of the Albanians, who form 90 percent of Kosovo's population.

Rubin told reporters that despite the talks, "the indiscriminate use of violence [by Serbian forces] over the past two weeks has undermined the basis of those talks," adding that "we are now moving forward to implement the assets ban and the investment ban."

A senior State Department official, who asked not to be identified, said an executive order, which was "probably in train right now," was needed to implement the measures. "But we've made the decision," he said.

The US move came hours after the EU decided to ban new investments in Serbia. Western powers are seeking to exclude Montenegro, which forms Yugoslavia along with Serbia, from sanctions, but say that may be technically difficult in the case of an assets freeze.

Other sanctions already imposed on Belgrade since March include a ban on exports of arms and lethal equipment, and a ban on government investment credits.

Foreign ministers of the "Contact Group" on Balkan issues – Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Russia and the US — will meet in London Friday to discuss Kosovo.

Rubin said the meeting was "to galvanize a greater effort to convince Milosevic of the dangers he faces and plan for what happens if the situation deteriorates further."

Rubin also announced for the first time US support of a British UN resolution that would authorize "all necessary measures" to halt the crackdown in Kosovo.

A similar phrase was used in November 1990 when the US persuaded the 15-member Security Council to approve its military action in the Gulf to expel Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

"We are working with our British allies in support of this resolution," Rubin said.

Other US officials said the British had not yet circulated any document on Kosovo at the UN and that Washington and London were trying to gain the support of pro-Serbian Russia, which has a veto in the Security Council.

Earlier, National Security Adviser Sandy Berger said military intervention in or around Kosovo was not being contemplated in the short term. "That's not something... that is at this point on the table," he told reporters.

But White House spokesman Mike McCurry told reporters in New York that military action was still an option.

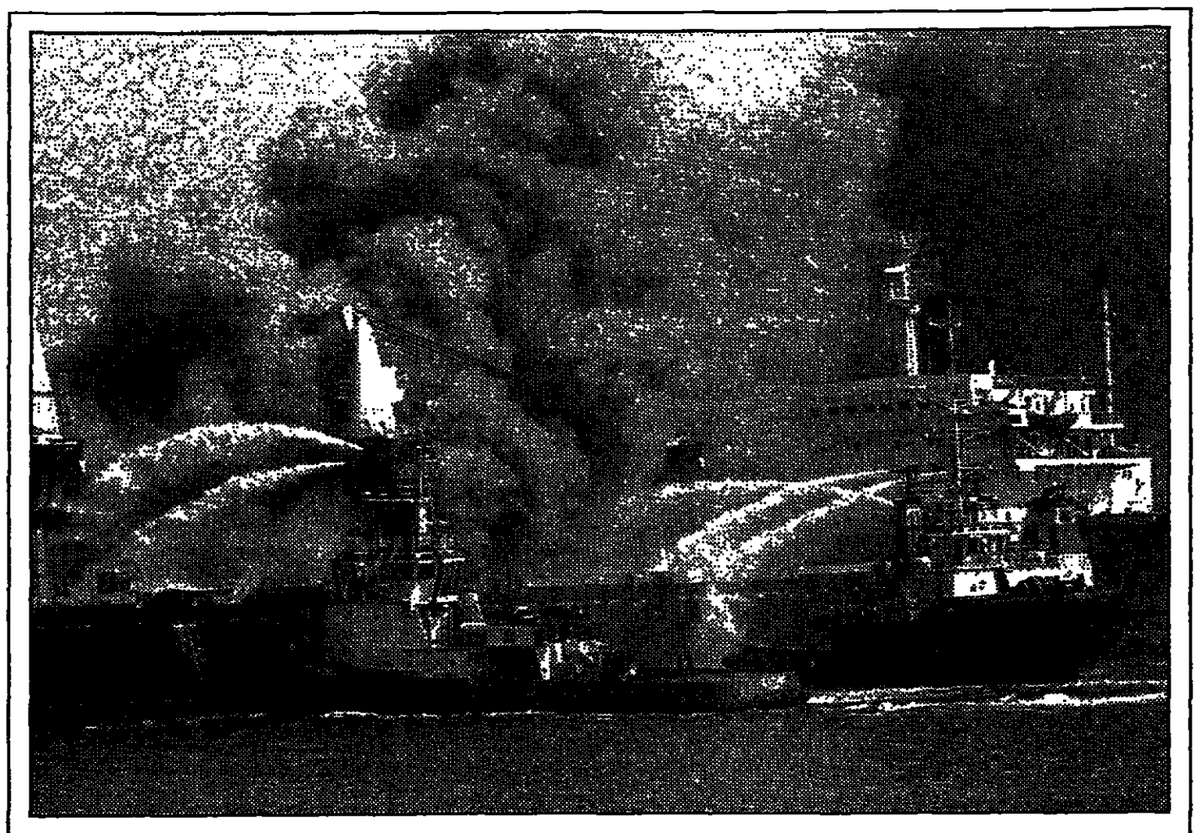
"We and our partners have a variety of options available to us, and no decisions have been made on that score, but again nothing should be ruled out either," he said.

Rubin noted that NATO had asked its military experts to study options of sending forces to the neighboring states of Albania and Macedonia, or to Kosovo itself.

He said Milosevic's crackdown was increasing popular support for the separatist Kosovo Liberation Army (UCK).

"With every day that he makes the mistake of using force... he becomes the membership chairman in the UCK's efforts, because he continues to push the people of Kosovo into a more extremist posture than they otherwise would be," he said.

"At some point, we hope he stops shooting himself in the foot and shooting the people of Serbia in the foot, and gets the message that the way to protect the interests of Serbia is to work at this problem at the negotiating table," he added.



River of fire

Istanbul fire-fighting boats try to extinguish a blaze aboard the Greek cargo ship Mariana, which caught fire in the Sea of Marmara as it was leaving the Bosporus yesterday. It was unclear what caused the noon fire in the ship's cargo hold, full of pitch-smeared telephone poles and sheets of iron being ferried from Romania's Black Sea port of Costanza to Gibraltar. The fire was still smouldering in the early evening. (AP)

New Nigerian leader sworn in

By FELIX ONUAH

ABUJA (Reuters) - Gen. Abdusalam Abubakar was sworn in on Tuesday as Nigeria's ninth military ruler following the death by heart attack of strongman Gen. Sani Abacha.

In a brief acceptance speech to the ruling military council in Abuja, Abubakar, a quiet, bespectacled career soldier who became chief of defense staff but has never held high political office, described his appointment as a personal challenge.

"All hands must be on deck to move this nation forward. I will address the nation in due course," he said, declaring seven days of national mourning for Abacha, during which flags will fly at half mast.

Abubakar made no mention of presidential elections looming on August 1, for which Abacha was the sole candidate.

Nigerian army rulers have repeatedly promised and repeatedly delayed the restoration of democratic rule.

Abacha's death has thrust oil-producing Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation of more than 104 million people, further into political uncertainty.

World powers and Nigerian opposition leaders quickly urged the ruling clique to ensure democracy is given a chance in the former British colony ruled by soldiers for all but 10 years since independence in 1960.

The US State Department, which had been critical of Abacha's arrangements for the August election, said it wanted to see a "genuine" transition to civilian rule by October 1.

"Our hope, among others, would be... that an accountable, civilian government that is able to lead the Nigerian people will emerge from what has been a very horrific episode in which basic, fundamental rights have been suspended," White House spokesman Mike McCurry said.

The EU called for an accountable civilian government that will respect human rights.

Opposition groups in ethnically-divided Nigeria's Yoruba southwest had said they wanted detained local millionaire Moshood Abiola, the presumed winner of annulled 1993 elections, made president of a national unity government.

But despite opposition warnings that they would not accept another military ruler, few political analysts had expected Abiola to be appointed.

Abubakar, like most of Nigeria's rulers since independence is a northerner. He is from the same region and close to former military president Gen. Ibrahim Babangida, who annulled 1993 elections and paved the way for Abacha's takeover.

"He has always kept himself in the shadows. A real dark horse," said one Nigerian politician in Lagos of Abubakar. "Nevertheless, his appointment at this time seems the logical one to make, perhaps because of that." Few tears were shed for Abacha away from his graveside in his home city of Kano, where he was buried in accordance with Moslem rites on Monday evening.

The streets of the southwestern commercial capital Lagos and other big cities emptied quickly as night fell and the principal emotion at news of Abacha's death was fear of where Africa's crisis-plagued giant will go next.

"I won't say I'm not unhappy that he's dead after the trouble he caused," said businessman Tunde Abayomi in Lagos. "I'm just afraid over what comes next. Everybody is afraid."

Worries over Nigeria's future have already cost the naira currency more than 14 percent of its value against the dollar this year. The stock exchange index dropped more than 7.5% since January 1, with traders blaming political worries.

Abacha seized power at a time when pundits warned the country, which fought an ethnic-based civil war in the 1960s in which more than one million people died, could break into rival fragments.

"There is real fear that all of a sudden the problems that Abacha managed to suppress in the last five years will resurface with a vengeance," said one Nigerian politician resident in London.

US said planning to cut combat troops by 13%

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The US Army plans to trim troop strength in its 18,000-soldier combat divisions by 13 percent in the first of a series of moves to create more agile land forces, the *Washington Post* reported yesterday.

The newspaper said the changes were the most conservative of several options considered by army officials and fell considerably short of the wholesale streamlining of the combat structure advocated by some in the service.

The changes affect six of the army's 10 divisions, the *Post* said. It quoted military officials as saying the reforms would be the first of a progressive series of moves over the next decade or two.

Other studies are under way on revising the army's remaining four divisions, the *Post* said.

"In doing this redesign, we conducted probably the most intense and thorough look that the army has ever gone through," the *Post* quoted a colonel as saying.

The new divisions will have somewhat fewer armored vehicles and more reconnaissance and artillery equipment than before, according to the newspaper report.

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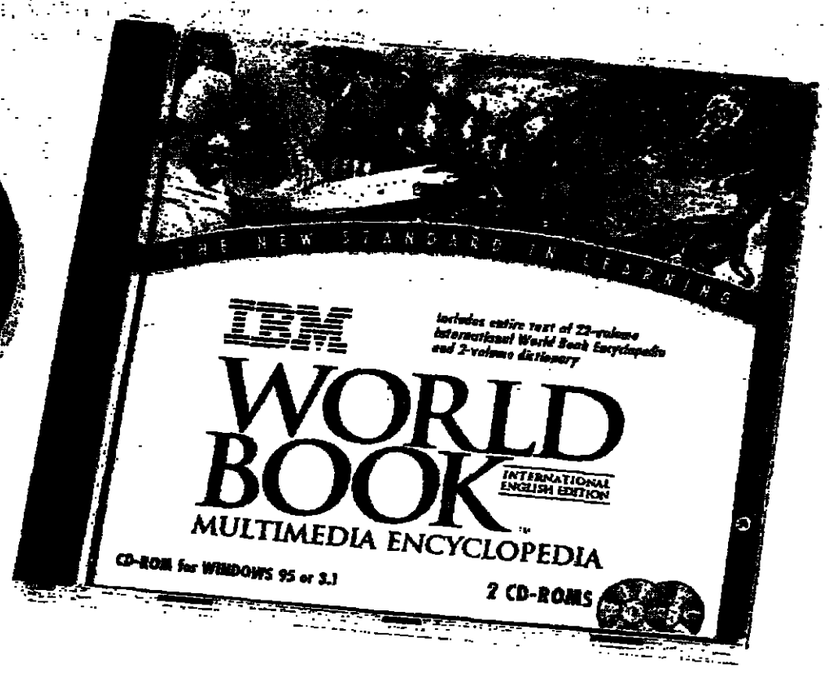

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Nagasaki's sober look at nuclear escalation

By KEVIN SULLIVAN

NAGASAKI, Japan – Komatsu Koga, sweet in her pink floral-print pajamas, knelt up in her hospital bed and recalled the hell she has spent a lifetime trying to forget.

Fifty-three years after the atomic bombing of this seaport city, Koga, 72, can still see the flash-charred corpses sitting upright in the blistered remains of the train they were riding. A horse still standing, blackened in instant death. She remembers the horrible burns on her mother and five others in her family, including the infant niece she tried to nurse with rice gruel because there was no milk. The baby died in her arms in the mountain cave they shared for months with other bomb survivors whose homes had been incinerated.

As world leaders scramble to devise diplomatic solutions to a new arms race rising from the Indian and Pakistani nuclear tests, people here at the epicenter of the world's last atomic bomb attack wish all the warriors and diplomats could see what they have seen.

All of Asia is consumed by a jittery unease since Pakistan and India started their rival bomb testing, but perhaps nowhere more than Japan is the fear of a new nuclear arms race so palpable. And none are more outraged than Japan's *hibakusha*, survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, who believe history's lessons are going unlearned.

"We have witnessed the reality of what could happen," Koga said, from her bed in the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Hospital, where she was undergoing tests Monday for liver disorders caused by radiation.

Koga is one of 317,000 surviving Japanese *hibakusha* who have illnesses resulting from the two atomic bombings. The Japanese government issues each of them a special ID card and pays all their medical expenses. A half-century after the American bombs nicknamed Fat Man and Little Boy fell on Japan and ended World War II, doctors here say about 7,000 people who were on the ground on those two days still die every year from leukemia and other diseases believed to be related to the bombs.

"I don't understand what is going through the minds of these Indian and Pakistani leaders," said Koga, her eyes welling up at the memory of the horrors she witnessed. "People talk about (the aftermath of a nuclear bombing), but without actually seeing it you could never comprehend what it really means."

In her hospital bed, kneeling in polite Japanese style, Koga said it has been only in the last two years that she has been able to discuss what happened to her on the day the bomb fell. "I never spoke of it," she said. "All I could do was cry."

Japan's leaders and its public have reacted with uncharacteristic vehemence in condemning Pakistan's and India's nuclear tests. (AP)

As the only nation ever to suffer nuclear bomb attacks, Japan sees its anti-nuclear campaigning as something of a sacred duty. So do the Japanese who still bear the scars.

"Our memories live strong," said Sadaaki Numata, chief spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Ministry. "Many Japanese people watched their parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters die because of the bombing. They still have vivid memories."

JAPAN has joined the US in backing its anger with economic sanctions. Tokyo is the largest contributor of foreign aid to India and Pakistan, two poor nations that rely on foreign generosity to develop. Japan provides about $1 billion a year in loans and grants to India and half that much to Pakistan. That money has been frozen by a Tokyo government enraged over the tests, especially because personal appeals from Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto were ignored.

From the UN to the streets of Tokyo, Japan's leaders and its public have reacted with uncharacteristic vehemence in condemning the tests. There have been noisy protests at the Indian and Pakistani embassies in Tokyo. Demonstrators have come daily to the peace museum in Hiroshima and the black granite obelisk that marks ground zero here in Nagasaki, where on August 9, 1945, an atomic bomb with a fireball heated to nearly 14,000 degrees Fahrenheit flattened a city of 220,000 people in less than three seconds.

The situation in India and Pakistan seems perverse to the people in this centuries-old industrial seaport. They say it's almost as if no one remembers they are here. They say that people in India and Pakistan would not be cheering in the streets about nuclear weapons if they really understood the suffering those bombs have caused.

"From our experience, we have a very clear recognition that nuclear bombs and human beings cannot coexist," Nagasaki Mayor Iccho Itoh said in an interview Monday. "The agony, the fear and the anxiety of these people is really beyond any description," said Itoh, whose father was in Nagasaki during the bombing and later died of cancer.

"Our sad history has not been enough to change the world," said Shunichi Yamashita, an internationally recognized radiation specialist who teaches at the Atomic Bomb Institute of the Nagasaki University School of Medicine.

"People should listen to the voice of the *hibakusha*," said Yamashita, who noted that 900 students, professors and patients at his university perished when the bomb went off.

It's easy to find those voices in Nagasaki. About 74,000 people died instantly when the bomb fell. Thousands more died in the days, weeks, months and years that followed – often depending on how far people were standing from ground zero. There are still more than 57,000 people in the city who are recognized by the government as bomb victims – a category limited to those who were on the ground at the time, or were born within nine months to a mother who was there. (Washington Post)

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Linda McCartney remembered

Paul McCartney penned the Beatles hit "Let it Be" in homage to his mother, who died of breast cancer when he was just 14. On Monday, McCartney gathered family and friends to remember his wife Linda, who died of the same disease in April – and, again, he sought solace in the haunting ballad.

Hundreds of mourners sang "Let it Be" at a private service in the historic church of St. Martins-in-the-Fields Monday night in tribute to Mrs. McCartney, photographer, vegetarian, animal rights campaigner, musician, wife – and mom.

"It was amazing, it was a beautiful hymn," comedian Tracey Ullman said after the service.

Other celebrity guests included the other two surviving Beatles, Ringo Starr and George Harrison, Sting, Elton John and film producer David Puttnam.

In adjoining Trafalgar Square, animal rights activists set up a giant pair of angel's wings for condolence messages and hung banners proclaiming "Linda: The Animals' Angel" in several languages. Vegetarian children laid flowers beside a large photograph of Mrs. McCartney cuddling a tiny chick.

Some stood for up to seven hours in rain and biting wind to pay tribute.

"Linda McCartney made vegetarianism mainstream," said Janet Payne of west London, who carried a poster showing Mrs. McCartney and a variety of farm and woodland animals.

"I felt I had to come," said Julio Guereca, a disc jockey from Mexico City who was on vacation in London. "I just admired her so much."

McCartney, 55, winked and flashed a V sign for peace at the crowds as he arrived at St. Martins-in-the-Fields with Heather, 36, his wife's daughter by her first marriage and the couple's children Mary, 27, Stella, 26 and James, 21. He briefly put an arm around his son's shoulders as they made their way inside the imposing 18th century church, which was illuminated with candles and swathed in white roses and Lily of the Valley, Mrs. McCartney's favorite flowers.

The Brodsky Quartet played eight songs McCartney wrote for his wife, including "The Lovely Linda" and "Calico Skies." Actress Joanna Lumley and photographer David Bailey read poems and McCartney, The Who guitarist Pete Townshend and writer Carla Lane gave tributes.

In his own moving tribute to "the girlfriend" he lost, McCartney recalled his wife as a great lover. "We had a lot of fun making those babies," he said.

Speaking of her death, he said: "I still can't believe it but I have to because it's true. After she died I was thinking of her and I thought of her like a diamond, a big orange diamond and if you look at all the facets of the diamond as with every facet you looked at she was greater."

The facets, he said, were like the different roles she adopted in life like her career as a photographer and as a musician.

McCartney revealed that when he went to pick up his knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace last year, Linda was to ill to attend. But that morning, she presented him with a silver watch inscribed, 'To Paul, my knight in shining armor.' "Through our kids, our beautiful kids, her spirit lives on," he said. (AP)

Sir Paul McCartney attends a memorial service for his wife, Linda, in London on Monday. (AP)

NEWS of the muse

By HELEN KAYE

Getting the audience 'to think twice'

Actress/director Yael Druyanov and her Peace Child Israel group of Arabs and Jews have spent a year creating an original comedy based on Eugene Ionescu's *Rhinocerus*. *Rhinocerizing* "is an attack on the 'I don't wanna get involved' mentality," observes Druyanov. "We don't draw conclusions, but we do ask the audience to think twice." Founded by Druyanov in 1988, Peace Child Israel seeks to create dialogue between Jewish and Israeli Arab youth and gives workshops all over the country.

Funds for *Rhinocerizing* came from Germany's Ebert Foundation. Five of the eight actors in the cast, all aged from 20 to 30, are Jewish. The others are Arabs. *Rhinocerizing* will be at the Inbal Theater at Tel Aviv's Suzanne Dellal Center on Saturday.

Kiss and make up

Haifa Theater star Juliano Mer is back on stage in the title role of *Othello*, which resumed its run in Tel Aviv last week. He was suspended last month following an incident in which he slapped co-star Maya Maoz a little harder than the directions call for.

Maoz ran offstage and it took 10 minutes to persuade her to resume the play. His reinstatement came after Mer apologized to Maoz and the rest of the cast. However, Maoz is quitting her role as Desdemona to join the cast of the upcoming *To Be or Not to Be*.

University theater festival in Jerusalem

Seven visiting university theater companies are coming to the Hebrew University from June 15 to 18 for Thespis, the international university theater festival now in its fifth year. The Hanyon theater on campus at Mount Scopus and Gerard Behar will host some 15 performances.

English-language productions include *Night Just Before the Forests* by Bernard-Marie Koltes by Queen Mary College in London, Steven Berkoff's *Harry's Chrismas* from the University of Wales, and *Liturgies* by N. Glickman from Smith college in the US. Local representatives include Hebrew University, the Technion and the Seminar Hakibbutzim among others.

The Georgians are coming!

Batumi, the Georgian State Folklore Company, opens its 12-day countrywide tour of dance, songs and instrumental music at the Kfar Sava Auditorium on June 17. Spectacular dance styles range from toe-dancing to the famed sabre dance.The 50-strong company includes a 10-member choir, seven musicians and some 30 virtuoso dancers. Batumi will go to Netanya, Ramle, Rehovot, Tel Aviv, Petah Tikva, Bat Yam, Jerusalem and will end in Haifa on June 29.

Mesmerizing Mahler

CLASSIC DISCS

By MICHAEL ARONSTADT

It is no secret that classical musicians today tend to prefer the concert hall to the recording studio.

Indeed, you can have a far better result in the recording studio but it lacks the spontaneity, the real life excitement, the sensation you get only when you play in front of a live audience.

That is why recording companies find themselves traveling to concert halls all over the world to capture concerts live on disc. Not every live recording is a *real* live recording, however. Usually two or three concerts of the same program will be recorded and the disc will feature an exciting, edited combination of the best moments of all three. But these are still all tracks from the concert hall, and it makes a huge difference.

In 1992, James Levine led the Berlin Philharmonic in Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* and it took Deutsche Grammophon six years to release the disc, but it was worth waiting for.

Levine is one of the greatest opera conductors in the world today who almost singlehandedly brought the Metropolitan Opera to the forefront of the opera world, and in the process made its orchestra one of the best symphony orchestras around.

But Levine also has a passion for Mahler and he has performed and recorded his symphonies and other works on several occasions. This recording combines the Mahler enthusiast and the opera professional with the consummate artist, and the result is brilliant.

The Berlin Philharmonic have been playing Mahler for many years and with all the leading conductors in the world. They know this music inside out but here suddenly it is as if they discovered a new layer to Mahler, a much softer and more gentle yet at the same time passionate Mahler than one usually associates with the composer. This is a very romantic Mahler, not so aggressive, the composer who knew how to combine words and music in a most sublime way.

Levine has two of today's finest singers at his side. Tenor Siegfried Jerusalem is glorious throughout. He manages to present an almost intimate reading of the score, operatic in grandeur yet subtle and pensive in concept. Alongside him Jessye Norman sings as softly and caressingly as one could imagine.

It isn't always the case that a series of great ingredients makes a perfect whole. Here a great orchestra, a most sensitive conductor and two of the finest singers in the world gathered to bring an array of sounds that one does not easily experience listening to Mahler, which is much more meticulous and sophisticated than purely emotional.

Such an effect would have never been achieved in the recording studio. This powerful yet captivating rendition can have only emerged in the concert hall. This is one of the most spectacular, mesmerizing and beguiling Mahler discs I have heard in a long time because it takes the music one step forward to a terrain not many have visited before.

'Moaning Stones' cancel UK gigs

The Rolling Stones got no satisfaction from the British government on Monday after calling off the UK leg of their world tour because of a new tax law.

The veteran rockers, who said they stood to lose £12 million ($19.6 million) in tax by going ahead with four British concerts in August, also won little applause from the media or the music industry.

"No sympathy for Jumping Jack Stash" said the tabloid *Mirror* newspaper in an editorial following a statement by the band blaming tax issues and an earlier injury to guitarist Keith Richards for the postponement.

"If we did the UK shows it would have meant the entire European tour ran at a loss and we just couldn't do that, it would have been foolish," said millionaire singer Mick Jagger.

Under the old tax law, Britons who lived and worked abroad for more than a year were exempt from British taxes on their earnings, so long as they did not spend more than 62 days in Britain.

But the Labour government elected a year ago has scrapped that arrangement for everyone except some 10,000 seafarers. Now any resident who works in Britain at all must pay tax on their entire year's earnings.

Prime Minister Tony Blair, who has courted pop stars to cultivate a youthful new image of Britain, thought the decision to cancel the tour was "a matter for the Rolling Stones," the spokesman said.

Jagger said he had no axe to grind with the Labour government. "They have every right to change the tax law...I'm not a party political animal and the government isn't run for my convenience," Jagger told reporters from Munich.

"Personally it has been a very difficult decision to make. I was tempted to bite the bullet but I'm not the only one affected," he added. The band had to consider the tax position of its 270 strong crew as well as its own.

More than 300,000 tickets have been sold for the four British dates, which have been rescheduled for June 1999. Rolling Stones fans deluged the original venues with phone calls on Monday to find out what was happening.

The Rolling Stones, whose members are now in their 50s, earned a reported 31 million pounds last year.

The Daily Mail on Monday called them "The Moaning Stones".

The Mirror called the cancellation shabby behaviour, adding: "The band can afford to pay a bit more tax and the country needs all the money it can get." (Reuters)

'Happy vibes' at the Festival

By HELEN KAYE

What's Caribbean, steel and living in Jerusalem? Jerusalem Steel, Jeffrey Kowalsky's 10-month-old steel band that's playing on the plaza at the Jerusalem Theater tomorrow as part of the Israel Festival's outdoor events.

Kowalsky plays the lead drum and the band's other five members are either students at the Jerusalem Institute for Contemporary Music where Kowalsky teaches percussion, or his grads.

Response to the lively music, which includes the classics, show tunes and Israeli songs, is enthusiastic. Last time the band played at the Festival, audience jiggled, snapped its fingers and the littlest ones played unrebuked among the drum stands.

"I get happy vibes from the people," says Kowalsky. "I like playing at the Festival. There's a great feeling of openness."

Kowalsky, 48, immigrated from the US for the first time in 1973 when his friend Lukas Foss, the then music director of the Jerusalem Symphony, invited him to join the orchestra as tympanist.

In 1976 – "I'd always dreamed of teaching at a major university" – he became assistant professor of percussion at Northern Illinois University, a post he held until 1983 when he, his wife and their two children decided to come back here.

"We decided that Israel was where we wanted to bring up our children," he says, explaining the move. Since his return, Kowalsky has been living in Beersheba where he plays percussion with the Beersheba Sinfonietta. He commutes to Jerusalem several times a week.

At NIU, Kowalsky had a friend from Trinidad who made steel drums and with whom he had formed a band there, "and after I started teaching at the Institute, I kept talking about a steel band," he says. "Then we got a special donation from a private individual and I sent to money to my friend to make us the drums. We're the only professional steel band in the country," he brags happily.

Still composing at 80

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

This November, leading Israeli musician Ze'ev Steinberg celebrates his 80th birthday. However, his musical friends have decided to celebrate this great milestone in Steinberg's life with a couple of concerts in the next few days in which Steinberg himself will play and perform, among others, some of his own musical compositions.

The German-born musician immigrated here in 1933, and spent his early days making a living in agriculture and later as a taxi driver. In 1942 he joined the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra where he stayed as a violist for five decades. Since his IPO retirement, Steinberg has joined the Ramat Gan Chamber Orchestra and is also an active member in the contemporary music ensemble Musica Nova, which he co-founded.

The violist cum composer never had much time to compose. "I was an IPO member for 50 years; that leaves you very little time for anything else," he said. Yet since his initial compositions back in the early 1950s, Steinberg has never ceased writing.

The coming Musica Nova ensemble features the world premiere of the Adagio and Rondo scherzos for viola, oboe and bass. It also includes the Israeli premiere of a song cycle set to the poems of Austrian poet Anton Wildgans, who for 20 years was the director of the Burgtheater in Vienna, as well as Steinberg's own settings of instrumental arrangements of 14th century ballads. "It is great music," the composer says, "and it could have been written even yesterday." The concert also features Hindemith's Octet, which is "one of the most beautiful works I have ever known."

As he approaches his 80th birthday, Steinberg is still a very active member of the local music community. Besides playing and composing, he attends concerts and teaches. What is even more important, Steinberg is a very happy man, and says: "If I'd had do it all over again I wouldn't have changed anything."

Ze'ev Steinberg

The special Ze'ev Steinberg homage concert presented by the Musica Nova can be heard Saturday at 9 p.m. at the Israel Music Coriservatory and Monday at 5 p.m. at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem. The conductor is Menahem Nebenhaus and the soloist is soprano Shira Green.

Big 'Brothers' disappoints

ISRAEL FESTIVAL REVIEW

By RACHEL SOUDAI

The Maly's last visit here with Lev Dodin's superb *Guadeamus* encouraged expectations of something even more sublime. But *Brothers and Sisters*, a marathon of monumental dimensions, if conceived on no less grandiose a scale, is by comparison a considerable letdown.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS
The Maly Drama Theatre, June 8

Manned by a cadre of different and older actors, this is a socio-ethnic dramatization of Abramov's novel-trilogy on the bitter truth behind the Stalinist adulation of Kolhoz. Part historic chronicle, part documentary retrospect, it is also a satiric critique of Soviet exploitation of the Russian peasant's ideological naivete and innate honesty.

Threaded through the near-to-eight hours of political saga is a rambling story of raunchy village romances treated with all the attitudinizing of contemporary social realism, but also laced with maudlin sentiment, large doses of soul-searching, hard drinking and fevered folk dance.

What puzzled this unengaged onlooker was why what is undoubtedly a production of great historical significance to Russian audiences has to be dragged out at such length for the delectation of strangers to that epoch? True, to watch original Chinese Opera you have to stand in the street for nearly twice as long. But there the score is 10 times as rousing and rewarding.

TODAY AT THE FESTIVAL

Jerusalem Theater

Sherover – English Concert, *The Messiah*, 8 p.m.

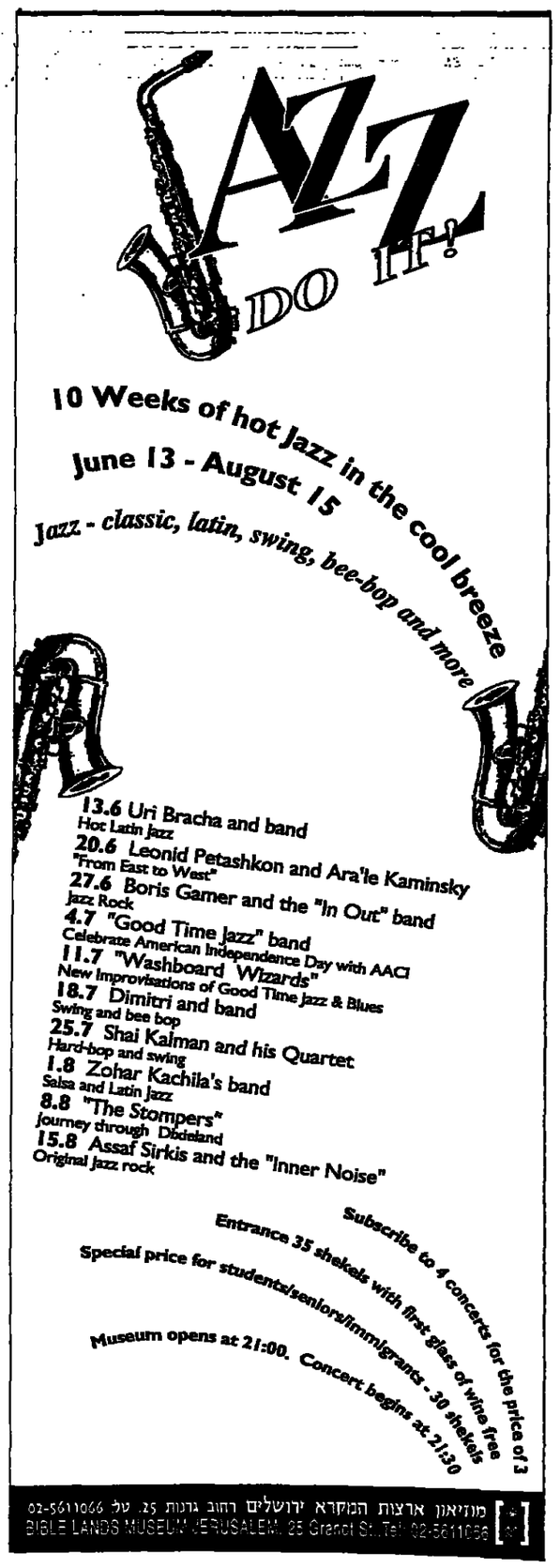
Little Theater – Shadow and puppet theater, *A Speck of Light*, 5 p.m.

Rebecca Crown – Royal Court and Out of Joint Theaters, *Blue Heart*, 9 p.m.

Plaza – Children's Theater, *1001 Nights*, 6 p.m; Hebrew, Arabic, Armenian, Greek, Ladino songs with Yerevan band and Betty Klein, *Jerusalem from East to West*, 7:45 p.m; piano and flute duo, 9 p.m.

Foyer – Renaissance Recorder Quartet, 8 p.m; Jean-Claude Jones jazz trio, 11:15 p.m.

International Convention Ctr. – Cirque Eloize, 7 p.m.



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Unwieldy referendum tool

Just when it seems that a redeployment deal is within arm's reach, a new wrinkle has appeared: the possibility of a national referendum to decide the matter. Though referendums might seem to be the ultimate in democratic mechanisms, their inappropriate use can undermine democracy and should be assiduously avoided.

The idea for a referendum was proposed by Land of Israel Front leader MK Michael Kleiner (Gesher), an ardent opponent of the anticipated redeployment package. *This is somewhat puzzling,* given that most polls back the contention of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu that, if put to a vote, the withdrawal package would *receive overwhelming* public support.

Not all polls, however, indicate such a clear result. A poll aired recently on Channel 1's *Popolitica found that a majority of Israelis support* redeployment in principle, while a plurality oppose a redeployment that would leave some settlements as enclaves within Palestinian-controlled territory. As is well known among observers of polling, results can differ very widely depending on how the question is posed.

It is precisely the malleability of a referendum campaign that leads both Netanyahu and Kleiner to be confident of opposite outcomes. Kleiner knows that, if just a few aspects of the proposed deal are singled out in a campaign, the public might be persuaded to reject the package as whole. Even if the public votes for the package, *Kleiner reasons, Netanyahu will be forced* by the prospect of a referendum to improve the package, to avoid it being tarred by unpopular elements – such as the isolation of settlements.

Former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin was thought to have proposed a referendum on any significant withdrawal from the Golan Heights *with a similar logic in mind. Though polls at the* time suggested that the Rabin government was headed for a trouncing in such a referendum, he may have reasoned that a referendum would force Syria to be more flexible in negotiations in order to satisfy Israeli public opinion. In other words, the prospect of a referendum itself *became a negotiating tool.*

In Netanyahu's eyes, a referendum may be tempting as a negotiating tool – to postpone a Knesset vote to the end of the session in July or replace it entirely, and to take the wind out of the right-wing opposition led, ironically, by Kleiner. A further temptation is the fact that a poll conducted by Channel 1 on Friday found that the public supports the idea of a referendum by a clear 60 to 31 majority.

Despite the fact that Rabin proposed a referendum on the Golan, and the recent examples of referendums on the Northern Ireland agreement *and the introduction of the single European currency,* the expected redeployment package is not an appropriate issue for a referendum. In the *cases of Northern Ireland and the, separate* referendums were conducted among different affected peoples upon the completion of a landmark decision. No single parliament was in a position to reflect the popular will, and there had been no single election that could constitute a mandate for the decision in question.

Regarding the Golan, a case could have been made that Rabin had previously run for office under a promise never to leave the Golan, so that a referendum was necessary for him to reverse positions. But Netanyahu himself gave the clearest response to this claim at the time, arguing that, "The real referendum is new *elections." If a government wants to take his*toric and irreversible steps that are strongly contrary to the mandate granted by the voters, new elections are the appropriate democratic response.

But the opposite is closer to the case regarding the redeployment package. Given that *Netanyahu claims that the package is exactly* what he promised the voters – implementing Oslo, but doing so in a way that demands reciprocal implementation by the Palestinians – then he has no grounds for calling a referendum. If the decision does break significantly from his electoral mandate, as Kleiner claims, then new *elections are the proper remedy.*

A referendum is in essence an admission of the inadequacy the normal democratic process. It is a tool that should not be blithely resorted to as a short-term political tactic, but only in rare cases when a momentous issue cuts across party lines and has not been fully debated in previous *national elections. There is no perfect formula to* make democracy work, but on balance even an imperfect representative government works better than one that delegates its proper work to spasmodic measures of the popular will.

Cup fever

DAVID NEWMAN

I can't believe it. How could a person who prides himself on his organizational and administrative skills have made such a blunder? It will be impossible to live down in certain social circles.

It's like this ..... At *Ben-Gurion* University we have had an ongoing seminar looking at issues of *Citizenship* and *Identity* in Contemporary Israel. It has run throughout the academic year and has proved to be so successful that we have a regular attendance of some 30-40 faculty on Wednesday *evenings, many of them having no* choice but to sit on the floor because of the lack of space.

Today is the final seminar. Dr. Uri Ram will discuss what's termed *glocalization:* analyzing Israel's identity – individual and collective – in an era of globalization *and rapid economic and tech*nological change.

But wait .... Surely not ... At exactly the same time as the *semi*nar, another event of great importance will be taking place, an event which no self-respecting citizen of the world can miss.

Yes, it's the opening game of the World Cup soccer tournament.

The whole world has been waiting *for this moment with bated* breath. Forget Israel's fiftieth anniversary, forget the impending *millenium celebrations, there is* nothing that will draw as much interest throughout the world (true globalization) as this tournament – nothing, that is, since the death of Princess Diana.

Do I detect some cynicism amongst my readers? Is it possible that not everyone reading this column shares my concern at missing the game? Can, I hear you say, he *really be trivializing the important* events of state and society in favour of watching 22 grown men kicking a ball around a large grass field? But the truth is that this tournament, the world's greatest sports event, watched by many more world viewers than the Olympics, is what the spice of life *is all about.*

Forget for a few weeks Netanyahu's refusal to honor *Israel's commitment to peace.* Forget the increasing Orthodox encroachment in the public sphere of everyday life. *Forget the daily* death toll on Israel's roads. Oh, and forget the seminars on identity *and citizenship, this is the ulti*mate form of escapism. Turn off from the world, invite your friends around, take out the beer (or perhaps the fresh orange *prigat*), tell the rest of the family that they dare disturb at the pain of death – and sit back and enjoy.

There is nothing like World Cup soccer to bring out your true identity

For the next month, hundreds of millions of people throughout the world will become TV soccer *morons like me.* At the risk of sounding serious, it epitomizes everything we are discussing in our seminar.

THE World Cup is the ultimate form of global identity, everyone tuning into the same games wherever they are. And, *at the same* time, our primeval tribal and national identities also come to the *fore as we cheer on our own team,* make derogatory remarks about the opposition and their national culture, and curse the referee for every decision which goes against the "us" in favour of the "other".

It will be especially interesting in Israel where there must be indigenous supporters from at least 20, if not more, of the 32 nations who will be competing for *soccer glory. Local-born Israelis,* as usual, have no team of their own to support and are cursing the Israel national team for, once again, failing to have made it beyond the qualifying rounds.

Of course, if Israel had made it, there would be no need for the mass television coverage – Israel would simply have emptied out as the entire *nation (excepting, of* course, the participants in the Citizenship and Identity seminar) *travelled to France to cheer the* team on.

International soccer has really taken on in Israel during the past few years, largely because of the advent of cable TV and the emergence of a few Israeli commentators who actually do know something about the game abroad – although the native soccer supporters amongst us still pride ourselves on *catching them out with a* wrong piece of information.

After all, what can they "really" know about a game which "we" invented. Soccer, *and cricket,* remain the final vestiges of hundreds of years of colonialism and empire, the final proof *that there is* nothing that unites and divides us at one and the same time as much as a *full-blooded sports* competition.

I will just have to grit my teeth and bear it during the seminar tonight.

I will have to miss out on the first game, but will be all the more determined to see the rest. At least it is taking place in Europe so the games can be viewed at a civilized hour, rather than in the middle of the night.

There it is. This is where our true identities express themselves once every four years. And those of you who are still with me – well I'll see you at the England – Scotland final on July 12th.

Dry Bones

Murder most foul...

PINCHAS LANDAU

Premeditated murder is always a crime, and the reaction to it should be reasonably uniform.

Certainly, from the victim's point of view, the result is decidedly the same. In John Wayne's immortal formulation: "If you're dead, you're dead; remember that and you might stay alive longer."

But, as anyone who follows the Israeli media should know, there is a big difference between different *kinds of murder – to the vic*tim, or his or her memory, and especially to the general public.

Murder most foul, in the Israeli context, is that perpetrated for political motives. Oh, yes – by Arabs, of course. A Jew who is murdered by an Arab for political motives automatically becomes a martyr for his people and country.

The murder is referred to in the media as having been perpetrated "for nationalist motives," and this is the accepted code-word for a series of pre-programmed responses, mainly by politicians of every stripe, but also by ordinary citizens.

The latter may express horror, grief, outrage and desire for revenge ("*death to the Arabs,*" etc.) and, in some cases, do certain things (throw stones, demonstrate *violently) that would otherwise* not be countenanced.

As an aside, but an important one in terms of Israeli socio-political reality, it may be noted that even when – as is usually the case – the murderers actually had religious motives, i.e. they were fanatical Moslems intent on killing Jews, the codeword remains "nationalist motives."

Learned papers, indeed entire tomes, could be penned on this aspect alone, but let's make do with mentioning it.

The victim of the aforementioned murder syndrome is assured of intense media coverage of his/her demise, funeral, who visited the mourners, what they said, and what happened to the perpetrators when (as happens in most cases) they are apprehended by the forces of law and order. He or she will also be remembered and often commemorated, and his/her family will receive state support in various forms.

...and murder less foul, ending up with murder least foul. That's the pecking order for meeting a violent end in Israel today. It's also a sad and sobering reflection of Israeli society

Rabbis in Israel and around the world will eulogize these victims in tear-jerking sermons, and Jews everywhere will feel sympathy for the victim, the family and the State of Israel as a whole. *That is, per*haps, a source of some consolation to the victim's memory, that there *is a memory and that the murder* brought Jews closer together.

NOT so in the case of a lesser murder situation – that of the "personal" sort. Getting rid of one's spouse (usually the husband dispatching the wife) or of one's (often estranged) companion, lover or girlfriend, as well as other murders in the immediate family circle, have become an increasingly commonplace phenomenon in Israel in recent years. The report of such a murder in the media will bring condemnation, evoke revulsion, sorrow and sympathy, and may even get play for more than a day or two.

But no leading politicians (only heads of social service or voluntary organizations), and certainly no rabbis (here or abroad) will make impassioned statements, much less attend the funeral or shiva. The victim, the perpetrator and the event itself are all soon forgotten, except as part of wider statistics. These latter, however, become important when they *begin to surpass* the number of "nationalist" murder victims.

At the bottom of the heap are the *victims of murders defined,* in the police/media jargon, as being of "criminal" nature or motivation.

Members of gangs of professional criminals, engaged in drug-running, protection, vice, or other illicit activities, have recently been more assiduous in blowing away their rivals. Sometimes, as is perhaps inevitable, innocent by-standers become victims of this mayhem.

Yet, remarkably, the upsurge in this trade of violence has generated virtually no public response, neither in individual instances nor as a general phenomenon.

Thus the rubbing out of (Sephardi-Jewish) gangsters in Pardes Katz, or of (Russian-Jewish) gangsters in Netanya, or of (Israeli-Arab) gangsters in *Ramle is not accompanied by* statements, impassioned or otherwise, by politicians of almost any stripe. *Their funerals and houses* of mourning are unattended by national leaders and unrecorded by national TV.

There is certainly no follow-up coverage regarding the perpetrators, because these – like the overwhelming majority of non-political criminals in Israel – are not apprehended, arraigned and punished.

The forces of law and order are busy preventing, or reacting to, "nationalist" murderers. No religious leaders focus on these (increasingly frequent) occurrences in their (increasingly frequent and increasingly publicized) sermons, lectures and addresses.

Organized and unorganized crime remains, despite its rapid growth and far-reaching consequences, off the agenda of public discourse, especially in the Knesset and the synagogue. It is, after all, merely about morality, ethics and public order in the Jewish state: How much do the Bible, Talmud and Halacha have to say on these issues, compared to really important things like the borders of the state and its foreign policy?

We all make costly choices

RUTHIE BLUM

Two secular journalists – one a Moslem, one a Jew – met for a beer at the American Colony Hotel in eastern Jerusalem the other day.

Prior to the prearranged appoint*ment, the topic of discussion had* not been made clear, leaving each to speculate on which of the two *was to be the interviewer and* which the interviewee.

Each was excited about meeting a *colleague from the other side of the* Great Divide, one living under Arafat's jurisdiction, the other *under that of Netanyahu. Both were* hungry to compare notes. Find common ground. Examine differences. Part friends. Or remain such.

Neither, it turned out, is satisfied with the other's leader. Both are happy to say as much in print. Neither is satisfied with his own leader – though only the Jew is happy to say so in print, as the Moslem's livelihood depends on Palestinian Authority funding; and his well-being depends on PA approval of his words. The Jew's livelihood, on the other hand, depends on the approval of his editor; and his well-being depends on how good a writer he is.

Each was married in his early twenties; each acquired a few children along the way. Neither still *lives with his spouse – the* Moslem in another room of the same house, the Jew in another *house altogether, after having got*ten divorced officially.

Each wrote poetry in his youth, *though only the Moslem continues* to do so, and even calls himself a poet. The Moslem's estranged *spouse – who is "very religious" –* thinks of poetry as the work of the devil; that of the Jew – who is as *secular as he – thinks of it as the* ultimate in spirituality, if somewhat lacking in remuneration.

"I hate religion," the Moslem said to the Jew, as the two sipped their Goldstars, and nodded to acquaintances at other tables. "It's so restrictive. And religious people are so restricted." The Jew smiled, not sure where this was leading.

As if in explanation, the Moslem pointed to a man who had greeted him earlier. "You see him?" he asked. "If he were to see me sit*ting here with a woman,* he would be wondering, 'what are they doing here together? Maybe something sexual is going on between them.' This is the Arab mentality."

"I see," said the Jew, "And you think that if he were a Jew – religious or otherwise – he wouldn't be wondering the very same thing?" At this the Moslem was a bit taken aback.

"Ah, but when you live by religion, you have no choices," he went on, "Like in marriage." The Moslem's wife, it turned out, had been selected *for him by* his parents. And since then, he has harbored great longing for the woman of his *dreams.* A woman he has never met, but imagines to be everything he would want in a soul (*and sex*) mate. A woman to whom he has written inspired verses for as long as he can *remember.* A woman with whom he would feel no restrictions. A woman to whom he wrote "I *declare love on you*" in one of his melodic Arabic poems, leading his wife to think he was having an affair.

At this the Jew burst out laughing. "I've got a hot news flash for you, buddy," he said. "Not one of the people I know had an arranged marriage – and almost all of them are either *miserable* or divorced by now."

"But at least they had a choice... and *still* do," the Moslem persisted.

"We all have choices," the Jew pointed out. "But they come with a heavy price-tag."

"And what is that?" asked the confounded freedom-seeker.

"You already know the answer," responded his *new friend,* "or you would not have succumbed to an arranged marriage, and long ago you would have been able to 'declare love' on the woman of your dreams or on the vocation of your *dreams* – or even on your next-door neighbors with whom you seem to have an affinity."

"I still don't see what you mean by 'price-tag'," said the journalist, now taking notes.

"Responsibility for the consequences of those choices," *said his* colleague, as he capped his pen and asked for the check.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SOCCER MAD

Sir, – In connection with Sara Henley's article "The footballization of society" (June 3), I was reminded of what Franz Molnar, the great Hungarian-Jewish author, playwright and sometimes philosopher (*Carousel* was just one of his many masterpieces) – said of the football craze of the *Hungarian society of his time.*

He said: "I don't understand what football is all about. If they do need the ball, why do they kick it away? And if they do not need the ball, why do they keep running *after it?*

ANNA LEVIN

Jerusalem.

SUPPORT ROAD SAFETY

Sir, – Thank you for giving coverage to the Metuna Road Safety Symposium held in Tel Aviv on May 10. I should like to let your readers know, however, that Richard Jones, the other speaker from the UK, and I were only able *to attend the symposium with the* help and support of many people both here in Israel and at home.

I cannot possibly mention them all, but they include Zelda Harris, Linda Marcus and everybody else at Metuna, the British Ambassador David Manning, and the British Overseas Trade Group for Israel (BOTGI).

BOTGI supported this symposium as part of the British Week held in Tel Aviv in celebration of your 50th anniversary, and it was opened by Lord Stanley Clinton-Davis, Britain's Minister of Trade.

We hope that what we have done helps in some way. There are many dedicated and knowledgeable people working for road safety in Israel and everybody should support them *by helping to make your roads safer.*

FRANK NUNNELEY

Kent, England.

UNDEMOCRATIC

Sir, – One person can thwart the will of the Knesset and he has threatened to do so. And the Knesset by-laws allow him to carry out his threat.

Last month, the Knesset passed the so-called anti-missionary bill. MK Meir Sheetrit is quoted in *The Jerusalem Post* of May 21 as saying: "this bill will be buried in committee like similar bills before it...There is no way this will become a law."

Under Knesset by-laws a committee is not required to send a bill *back to the plenum. It can "sit" on* a bill until it "dies."

As well-intentioned as MK *Sheetrit may be, and as harmful as* he believes this bill to be, allowing committees to kill a bill is not the democratic way.

To correct this situation, the Knesset by-laws must be changed so that all bills passed by the Knesset on a first and second reading, must be reported out to the plenum by the appropriate committee within a specified time.

ELI RUDEN

Ra'anana.

OF THIS AND THAT

Sir – Now that *The Jerusalem Post* has somewhat endorsed the Abu Dis solution for the Palestinian capital in your editorial "Jerusalem's challenges" (May 22), we should turn our attention to who will have the rights to the use of the name. Jerusalem.

Jerusalem II has been preempted by a New York Kosher eatery. One can imagine the creative team of Albright, Ross and co. coming up with a great compromise. They'll *let us call ours Abu Dat.*

P. SARNAT

New York.

THE TRUTH ABOUT CONVERSION

Sir, – In reference to the article by Uri Regev "The truth about conversion" (*JP*, May 29):

Mr. Regev bemoans the fact that our Chief Rabbinate actually expects (!) that converts to Judaism are sincere in their stated (and sworn to) desire to be Jews *and take upon themselves the car*rying out of mitzvot.

After all, don't these rabbis *realize by now that Judaism is* really just a big membership club and that people can "join *up" for a variety of reasons,* without having to prove by actions and life style that they sincerely want to observe the Torah?

It is clear that, thank God, they don't: because if they did they would be contributing to the inevitable (and statistically proven) end result of the Reform Judaism philosophy: rampant *assimilation and total abandon*ment of Judaism.

Judaism is inherently *kabbalat ol hamitzvot* [acceptance of the duty of the commandments]. Any other interpretation of Judaism turns it into something that by definition is not Judaism and leads its adherents down the fast lane of religious demise.

For proof of this one need only to study the objective reports of the consequences of the Reform movement in America on its members children and grandchildren.

I can't believe that Mr. Regev is not aware of this; which makes his *argument about conversion all the* more disheartening.

NEIL HASSID

Netanya.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On June 10, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that Jews and Arabs agreed to a cease-fire, to begin at 10 a.m. on June 11.

In London, Mr. Bevin told the House of Commons that Arab Legion bombing of Jewish Jerusalem was justified since Jews attacked Arab holy places.

He added that Britain was under no obligation to recognize Israel.

25 years ago: On June 10, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that at the end of his four-day visit to Israel, the German chancellor Willy Brandt announced that his visit would herald a new chapter in Israel-German relations.

Alexander Zvielli

Multimedia's new spin on board games

By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

Hoyle Classic Board Games, a CD-ROM in English, by Sierra, distributed by Makhshevet, for all ages, NIS 169
Rating: ★★★★★

Hoyle Classic Card Games, two CD-ROMs in English (package includes a separate CD-ROM for playing blackjack), by Sierra, distributed by Makhshevet, for all ages, NIS 169
Rating: ★★★★★

With a wide variety of free games available on the Internet (see the games link at Yahoo – www.yahoo.com – for example), why would anyone want to buy CD-ROMs with board games or card games?

The obvious answer is that playing games takes up a lot of time (and Bezeq units as well as Internet provider charges), so unless you're hooked up to the Web at work and your employer allows you to play at his expense, it will cost you a lot of money.

If you have no board games or decks of cards of your own, or no one to play with at the moment, just stick any of these three CD-ROMs into your disk drive and start the game.

Sierra has done a really excellent job converting conventional pastimes into a lot of multimedia fun. The board games disk offers chess, pachisi battling ships, checkers, yacht, dominoes, Chinese checkers, snakes and ladders, backgammon and Zen bones, plus two popular card games as a bonus. A few of the games, such as snakes and ladders, requires only luck to come out ahead, but most of the others are won by intelligence, intuition and skill.

You can play either against a human contestant at the other end of your keyboard or against any of 12 virtual competitors in the form of a jazz bass player, a lawyer, a grizzly bear, an ad executive from Manhattan and so on – each is presented with a short characterization so you can be ready for his or her comments spoken in a variety of accents (such as "I anxiously await your move" or "Hey baby, nice touch!").

These characters shift their eyes from side to side and open and shut their eyelids, so they really do seem quite real. If you can't stand the patter (although this is part of the fun), you can easily go into Options and reduce the chat to a minimum.

Instead of just pulling down a menu to choose a type of game, you can click on a cabin icon and enter the scene of a vacation house, in which the various board games are displayed on a table or a shelf. Click on that and start playing. A spaceship icon is also there for a 21st-century lead into the offerings. Most importantly, you can set your skill level as beginner, intermediate and expert in any game, and not feel either overwhelmed or bored by your fellow "players."

This section also allows varying the subtle background music to any theme from "detective" to "eastern" and "orbit," and the screen wallpaper design as well. You can even add frogs as pieces and be entertained by a buzzing fly from time to time.

Each player's statistics at any of the 10 board games are automatically calculated and can be accessed at any time, including the number of games played and won, and high and low scores.

No great game connoisseur myself (except for chess), I particularly enjoyed the Chinese checkers (using colored marbles against five competitors), battling ships (in which you chart the locations of your ships on a grid, shoot blindly at those of your opponent and suffer losses when your own are blown up) and Zen bones (requiring you to click on pairs of tiles with matching Chinese characters among a mountain of them). A detailed help menu tells the novice or reminds the forgetful how to play each game.

All the material on the three CD-ROMs is in English, but the card game package includes a fascinating 44-page, Hebrew-language booklet on the history of cards and of each game, as well as instructions on how it's played. In any case, there are multimedia tutorials, so one needn't read English to learn what to do.

The classic card game disk includes bridge, crazy eights, cribbage, euchre, gin rummy, hearts, klondike, old maid, poker, pyramid, spades and war – all of which use the same characters and options as the board games disk.

The separate blackjack CD-ROM dispenses with the characters and turns the computer into a virtual Las Vegas (there are also options to play "Reno" and other versions of the game).

Hoyle is not a company name, but refers to Edmund Hoyle, an 18th-century Englishman who designed strategies for three card games and two board games. He was a genius at the game whist (from which bridge originated) and wrote a number of books about games that were issued by counterfeiters under his name.

Although the games were originally played using sticks, the Chinese were the first – about 1,000 years ago – to make playing cards from paper. There are several theories on how these games reached Europe, including the idea that it was via Marco Polo or wandering gypsies. The most plausible theory is that the Moors and Moslems (Arabs) conquered the Iberian peninsula (today's Spain and Portugal) in the Middle Ages, bringing chess, and probably card games, with them.

The French are responsible for the format of today's conventional deck of 52 cards which has hearts (symbolizing churchmen); spades (for noblemen); clubs (for farmers) and diamonds (for hunters and peasants); but it was the English – especially Hoyle – who gave card games their big push.

Even if history isn't your game, but playing is, these disks will suit you fine. And if you want to play with another person occasionally but there's nobody around, both the board and card game disks have automatic links to specific Web sites that will put you head-to-head with a real person.

Those who fear these games might be addictive have some basis for their concerns. But for those who have an urge to bet and compete and don't want to lose a month's wages on Mifal Hapayis, these programs will satisfy without the need to spend more than NIS 338 for the lot.

Hedda Nussbaum: Beaten and reborn

One of the world's best-known battered women has put victimhood behind her and is speaking out loud on women's issues as editor of a feisty New York monthly. Jim Fitzgerald reports

After a decade of tragedy, infamy, guilt and rejection, Hedda Nussbaum has inched back into the public eye, fulfilling a pledge to the slain six-year-old she considered her daughter.

"I made a promise to Lisa that we would help other children and mothers," she said

Nussbaum, 55, has just put out her second issue as editor of *Women's News*, a feisty monthly given away in New York City's northern suburbs. And she has stepped up her public speaking, engaging an agent who has already booked her into Syracuse University for a talk on battered women.

In 1988 she was probably the best-known battered woman in the world, her bashed-in nose and off-kilter lips familiar to millions of TV viewers who watched her testify against her companion, Joel Steinberg, the Manhattan lawyer who was convicted of manslaughter in Lisa's death.

"I look at the tapes, I hear that voice – very monotone – and it's hard to realize it's me," she says now.

Indeed, the battered face has softened some, but a boxer's nose betrays her past. A damaged tear duct makes her seem to weep quietly.

Many saw her as a less-than-innocent victim, and still do. Nussbaum saw Lisa abused and failed to rescue her; she never left Steinberg and never summoned help, even when the girl lay dying in their Manhattan apartment. Her predicament and her response provoked national debate on the accountability of battered women.

"The whole battered women's movement went off on this very, very weird tangent," says feminist writer Susan Brownmiller. "They were saying, 'My God, once a woman gets sucked into a relationship like this, it's impossible to get out.' They always hated the question 'Why didn't she leave?' I think it's a good question."

Nussbaum was granted immunity in exchange for her testimony. She told of being pounded, berated and humiliated, forced to beg for food and sleep in the bathtub. Yet she remained so fully under Steinberg's spell that she went along when he pulled legal strings to "adopt" two children, and believed him when he said he would heal Lisa in her last suffering hours.

When police came to the apartment on November 2, 1987, they found Lisa comatose and 3-year-old Mitchell tethered to a playpen, soiled and drinking sour milk.

Mitchell was returned to his biological mother. "There will always be a hole in my heart where my children are missing," Nussbaum says.

Yet she couldn't completely rid herself of the attachment to Steinberg until after the trial.

"It took 10 months after Lisa died to see what he was and who he was," she says.

She says she has learned from doctors that her lack of initiative was a physical response to the beatings – "It makes you numb, in lots of ways" – and so she no longer feels guilty.

Sitting at a kitchen table in the *Women's News* offices, Nussbaum seems good-humored, even excited about her job.

"I'm really happy doing editing and writing," she says. "It's what I'm good at, it's what I like."

In the 1970s, Nussbaum edited children's books at Random House. She lost the job, she says, by taking too much time off to hide bruises.

But after the trial and a year at a psychiatric hospital, she found it impossible to return to her chosen work.

"In terms of children's books, a lot of people blamed me for what happened to Lisa. They'd say, 'We can't have her on a children's book.'"

The state trained her in word processing and legal secretarial work, but she found she was still too notorious. During one job hunt she got interviews only by putting a phony name on her resumé.

"I wanted them to see I was a healthy, normal human being," Nussbaum says. But the jobs vanished when she revealed her identity.

She was pounded and humiliated, forced to beg for food and sleep in the bathtub. Yet she remained fully under Steinberg's spell... now she is warning women against a dependency like hers

Eventually, she began work as a legal secretary in Westchester County.

Meanwhile, she began speaking to women's and community groups about battered women. At first she spoke only in general terms, but now she discusses her own experiences, warning women against falling into a dependency like hers.

"I'd been wanting to do it for a long time," Nussbaum says.

Two months ago, she got a call from Merna Popper, publisher of the 50,000-circulation *Women's News*, and quickly accepted the editor's job.

"Oh, we knew who she was," Popper says. "It was a great fit. To get a Random House editor with an interest in women's issues at this price (a reported salary of $40,000) was great for us."

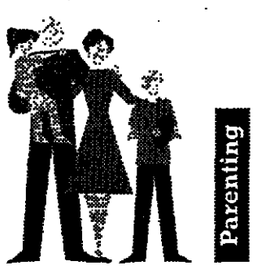
There has been some hate mail, Popper says, and Nussbaum's column in the June issue alludes to "the controversy over my becoming editor."

Nussbaum says she will continue to campaign every two years to keep Steinberg, now 55, from getting parole.

"Why would I want him out?" she says. "I've learned they don't stop the abuse." No matter when he is sprung from his up-to-25-year term, Nussbaum adds, "I know I'll be worried about him."

For now, she's concentrating on the newspaper. Coming in July is a special issue. It's dedicated to "the second half of life." (AP)

Taking in math through tempo



By Ruth Mason

It's time for the math readiness lesson in the Pisgat Ze'ev Tzafon School kindergarten class. Half the class files into the shelter-cum-gym and sits on the benches, waiting for instructions from their special teacher, dancer Sharone Rothenberg.

A dancer teaching math...?

For 45 minutes, the five- and six-year-olds move around the room, play with soft balls, giggle and laugh and have a barrel of fun.

This is learning?

Well, yes.

Listen and watch carefully, and you'll see the children absorbing math concepts through their bodies – according to many experts, the best way to learn anything at this age.

They lift the balls high into the air with one arm. "Do you see the number one?" Rothenberg asks.

"Add an arm – how many do we have now?"

Soon the children are on the floor making the shape of the number two, then the number three with their bodies and the balls.

The kids are challenged, but they all try. Some of the "body numbers" are actually distinguishable!

When she gets to four, the teacher asks the children to hold the ball on their heads, jump while counting to three, let the ball go and catch it on four.

"They begin to understand numbers through their bodies," says Rothenberg. "They don't know I'm teaching them math. They're learning on an unconscious level." She finds that props act as an extension of the children's bodies and helps free them up.

Later on, the kids throw the ball against the wall while counting to 10. They use the balls to practice concepts such as forward, backward, around, under and over – all integral to later work in math.

In other lessons, the children will get together and connect their bodies to form geometrical shapes such as circles and squares. They will find all the different triangles in their own bodies. They will put some parts of their bodies in a hula hoop, while a friend puts in others. Then they will decide who has more body parts in the hoop.

Older children will work on addition, subtraction and multiplication by moving through space, learning about the units of ones, tens and hundreds by creating the number 345 with a different movement representing each unit.

"People have multiple intelligences," says Ronit Menkin, who has a master's degree in public health and physical education, and who initiated this method in Israel.

Passive teaching can cause a child to daydream or close up. (Photo Emka)

"Physical intelligence is just as important as mathematical or musical intelligence, and there is a connection among all of them. As one type of intelligence improves, so do the others."

Menkin works with schools to incorporate movement into the curriculum. She supervises Rothenberg and other teachers who work with this method. With the Institute for Social Integration at Bar-Ilan University, she initiated projects in 20 schools from Tiberias to Karkur to the Tali Gilo school in Jerusalem. Many of these schools also use movement to teach Bible, science and language.

"When we tell children, 'Now it's time for a math lesson,' it means we are teaching them artificially and externally," observes Menkin. "The child may daydream or play with his notebook, or draw. He often just closes up and doesn't concentrate. It's not the child at fault – it's the method. This type of teaching is simply not appropriate for children, especially in the first and second grades.

"When a child learns the same math lesson through his body, with games and movement, he or she internalizes and remembers. This is true learning," says Menkin.

Using movement to teach academic subjects was pioneered by Anne Green Gilbert, who was dismayed by the lack of motivation her pupils showed when she taught third grade in Chicago. As a dancer and dance educator, she realized the importance and value of non-verbal communication, so she started a movement program in her classroom.

"The change was amazing!" she writes in *Teaching the Three R's Through Movement Experience* (Burgess Publishing Co., 1977.) An atmosphere of excitement and cooperation was generated. Spelling test scores greatly improved after sessions in "body spelling"; children became interested in math after making up math problems with their bodies; they began to understand astronomy after pretending to be planets spinning through a solar system they had created in their classroom.

Movement stimulates the brain, Gilbert writes, and fits in with Piaget's theories. The father of developmental psychology contended that children aged seven through 11 were in the "concrete operations" stage, during which learning should be active, experiential and concrete.

That's just what Rothenberg does with her kindergartners.

Tel Aviv University and the Community Centers Association will be sponsoring a two-day conference called Children in Movement from June 18-19.

All those who work with children between the ages of three months and eight years are invited to attend. For information, call 03-640-8440.

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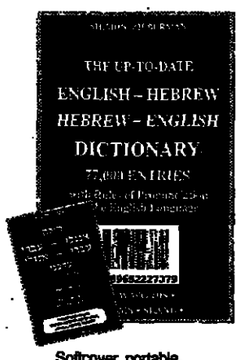

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Summer's second fiddle

Gardener's Corner

By Batsheva Mink and David Brauner

All of our attention is directed to the garden now that we have entered the summer months. Plants are growing and flowering with an abundance of color and fragrance. The beds and borders, as well as tubs and boxes, are doing their thing. And the lawn is under control.

When the sweltering heat sets in, however, you'll be doing more watering and weeding. You'll have to deal with harmful insects like aphids. The compost heap will need a regular turning over. The leaves of spring flowering bulbs that have started to die must be cut away when they are completely faded and brown.

At this time of the year the work outside seems never-ending, so much so that our indoor plants are left to play second fiddle. Summer is such a busy and tiring time for gardeners, that we quite often overlook what's going on with our beloved house plants.

Plants can't talk, but it's amazing how they let us know when something is bothering them. A brown tip here, a droopy stem there, a fallen bud, a yellow leaf, or chewed edges of foliage are telling us something.

All we have to do to get the message is look very closely at our plants (especially the underside of leaves where many pests lurk). The sooner we spot trouble, the sooner we can deal with it. The problem is that the messages coming from our ailing botanical friends are not always clear. "I'm getting too much or too little water, too much or not enough sun, a draft or lacking enough air circulation, or I'm being over- or under-fed."

The frustrating thing is that there are no final answers. Our only defense is a pinch of realism. We must reconcile ourselves to the fact that we cannot succeed with every plant that comes into our homes. Even professional growers have their losses.

Plants cannot move themselves, and as a result they are more responsive to seasonal changes in light and temperature than we are. Now that our house plants are getting more light and warmth, they will be growing faster. Tender green shoots, shiny new leaves and maybe a flower or two are a plant's way of telling us they are hungry and thirsty.

Signs of growth mean that our plants require regular watering and applications of fertilizer. Basic care is more important for house-bound plants growing in restricted spaces like pots and baskets than it is for plants growing outside in the garden. Once the supply of essential plant nutrients has been exhausted from the potting mix, the roots cannot spread out and tap fresh reserves as they do in soil outdoors. Feeding every two weeks with a diluted liquid feed should be sufficient for most plants. In pots, liquid feeds have a more even spread than granular fertilizer.

If you look at your house plants and wonder why they don't look the same as when they were newly acquired, the answer is that professional growers give plants the perfect conditions they need to grow successfully. For example, a breeder's hothouse can provide a plant with high humidity, temperatures around 18-24° C., plenty of light without direct sun, and a constant supply of tepid water. Leaves will be kept clean and polished, and pests will be sprayed with surgical precision.

In other words, plants growing under controlled conditions mimicking their native habitat will thrive. But when a new tropical or exotic plant comes into our homes, it is likely not to receive such lavish treatment. Nevertheless, we can find or make suitable spots around the house for specific plants without turning the house into a nursery. Or we can buy plants suitable for the conditions they will live in.

As we all know, our Israeli summers are harsh with constant sun and heat. In the hills the air is dry, and along the coast, humid. Few plants thrive in very high temperatures. As the atmosphere heats up and dries out, so do our houses. Room temperatures rise and remain hot even at night. In such conditions, plants have a tendency to dehydrate, especially house plants which originate in moist, humid jungles or rain forests.

To maintain as much moisture in the atmosphere as possible, plants should be frequently misted with water. Misting also helps keep the foliage clean. But avoid misting when the sun is shining directly on a plant, because the harsh light will cause scorching.

Another way to increase humidity, is to grow as many plants as possible together. Or stand single pots in a saucer filled with stones and water, taking care not to let the bottom of the pot come into contact with the water. The roots will rot if constantly exposed to water. Fill the water between the stones once a week.

While furniture is regularly dusted, how often do our plant leaves receive the same treatment? Dust is a plant's enemy in many ways. It clogs the leaves' stomata or pores so the plant cannot breathe properly. More importantly, dust blocks out life-giving light. In fact, dust behaves like a cataract on our eyes, cutting out more than 50 percent of in-coming light. A dusty plant simply cannot photosynthesize properly. Also, when foliage is dusty it becomes dull and tired looking, and so spoils the appearance of the whole plant.

The best way to clean large foliage is with a cotton wool soaked in plain warm water about once a month. For stubborn, sticky leaves, add a drop or two of mild soap to the water, and rinse after washing. Small leafed plants (but not furry types like African violets) can be rinsed under the tap, which also washes away many types of infestation.

In the summer, insect pests such as the red spider mite become active. These minute colonizing pests, which relish very dry surroundings, attach themselves to the underside of leaves where a white webbing is sometimes seen. The upper surface of the leaves becomes gray and brittle. Spray at intervals of ten days.

Don't forget to take care of the pots and planters themselves. The fertilizer salts or mold that accumulates around the rims should be cleaned off with a stiff brush and warm water every once in a while. Also with our hard water, the dishes underneath eventually become covered in "stone." This, too, ought to be removed periodically.

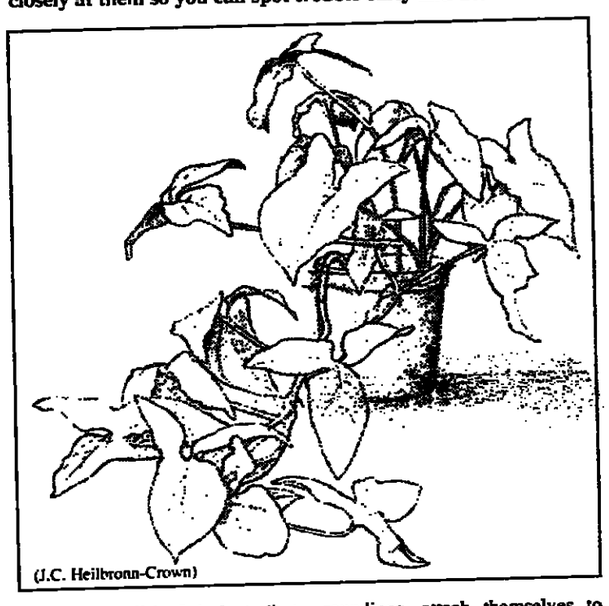
Another good idea to keep an old fork near your house plants. This will remind you to cultivate the soil . Remember plant roots need air, as well as water, to keep healthy.

Taking care of plants is both therapeutic and relaxing. So if we take care of our indoor friends during the long, hot summer, they will be there to see us through the gray, dark days of winter.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, P.O.B. 3943, Jerusalem 91039, or David Brauner, e-mail: morrir@mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for David" in the subject line).

Houseplants can't talk, but they do send messages – look closely at them so you can spot trouble early and deal with it.

During the long, hot months be generous with water, and don't forget the liquid fertilizer. (Photos: David Brauner)



(J.C. Heilbronn-Crown)

TIP OF THE WEEK

Both summer air-conditioning and fans can have a detrimental effect on your plants. Air-conditioning removes vital humidity from the air, which must be replaced for many plants. Also, a plant in the constant, direct breeze of a fan will lose more moisture through its leaves than the roots can replace. The easiest solution is to move your house plants away from these appliances.

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Heads 'N' Tails

By D'vora Ben Shaul

What to do about those buzzing pests

"Our moshav has cabled guard dogs on the periphery of the village," writes a reader from the North. "They are well-fed and housed, but the flies torment them terribly. Some have raw, bleeding ear rims, and their faces and muzzles are covered with flies. They are quite pitiful.

"But it's not not only the dogs who suffer. I have two horses who are simply tortured by flies. Is there anything I can do for these animals?"

I cannot offer any solution guaranteed to get rid of all the flies, but the following will help, although it requires a bit of work:

Take a liter of vinegar, preferably apple cider vinegar or citrus vinegar. From a pharmacy, get a 150-200 ml. bottle of oil of citronella and a 250 ml. bottle of strong quinine water. Add 50 ml. oil of citronella and 75 ml. quinine water to the vinegar. Then add five drops (no more) of kerosene (paraffin) to the mixture.

Shake this very vigorously immediately before use. It is an emulsion, and will not stay in solution.

Sponge the animal's ears, face and muzzle with the mixture. Take care not to get it in the eyes, but go as close as you can. Also keep it off the animal's lips and nostrils.

While this will help a great deal if applied early every morning, I repeat that it is not a total answer.

If you have access to the plant known as bitter rue (called *raudah* locally), a strong tea made of the leaves and stems works even better than quinine water.

I have used this solution on dogs, horses, cattle and milch goats quite successfully. The treatment may be a bit uncomfortable, but it's better than being literally eaten alive by flies. Although the dogs sometimes lick their muzzles, the bitter taste soon stops them.

A bigger problem is eradicating the flies.

This means keeping the area around the kennels raked free of animal feces daily, and making sure the stables are immaculate, mucked out and scrubbed.

Manure must be buried, composted, or treated with quicklime – for this is the flies' principal breeding ground. Nothing is guaranteed to produce more flies than an untended manure pile.

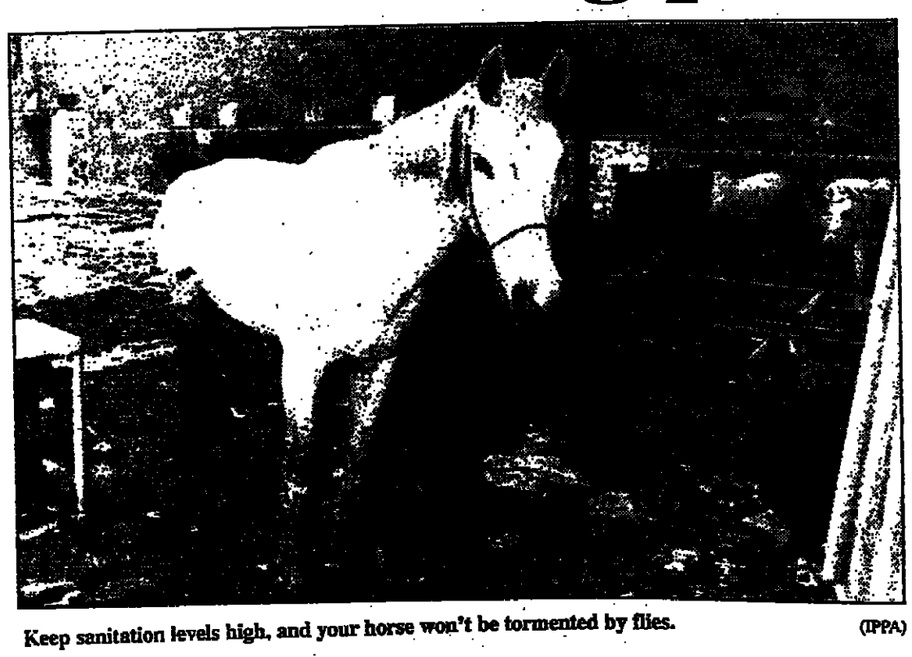
Yes, it's all hard work, but essential for avoiding the flies that plague some areas.

Certain pesticides are useful here too – but these should be discussed with the sanitation officer of your local council, or with the district sanitation officer from the Ministry of Agriculture or the Ministry of Health, as in many areas the flies have become resistant to these pesticides. The officials will know what works where.

All in all, the really important factor is sanitation.

Even the best-screened house can fall prey when the flies are out in force. Children open screen doors and forget to close them; window screens get torn; other accidents occur. And no preparation used on an animal will keep every fly away.

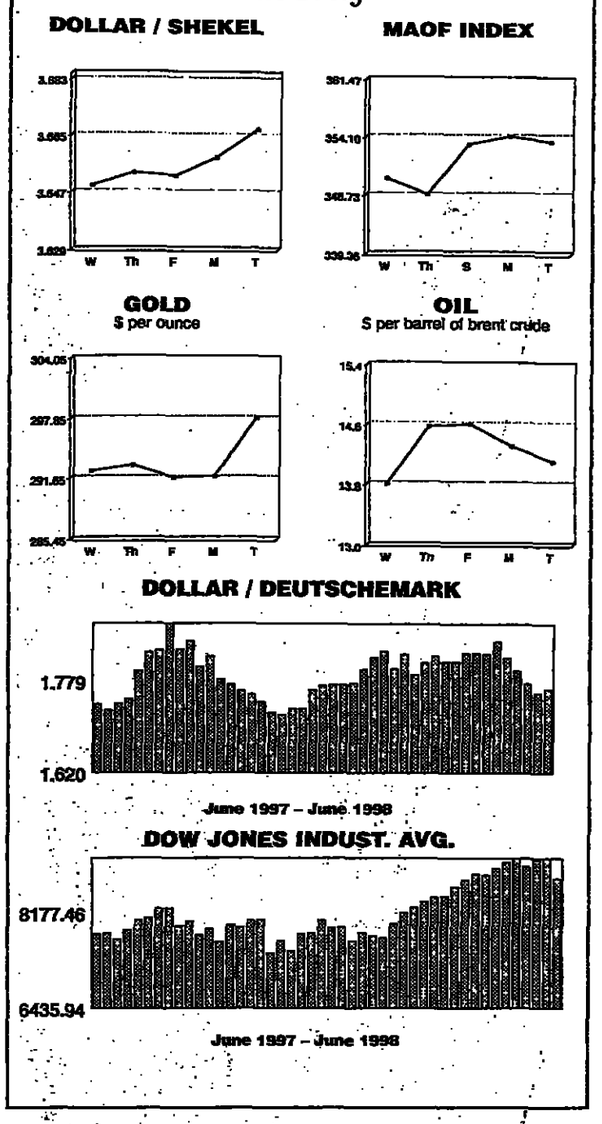
But in the end, it all comes down to good animal husbandry and human health. If you want a relatively fly-free existence, keep the general sanitary level high.



Keep sanitation levels high, and your horse won't be tormented by flies. (IPPA)

DRIVE CAREFULLY!

MARKETS
in brief



Manufacturers want 2,000 high-tech workers from India

By DAVID HARRIS

The electronics branch of the Manufacturers Association has requested the government admit 2,000 Indian computer programmers to ease the shortage of workers in the high-tech industry, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman said yesterday.

Addressing the annual meeting of the board of governors of Hebrew University, Neeman said contemplating such a move "is absurd."

During his speech, Neeman said there is currently a serious shortfall of workers in the high-tech industry and urged academic institutions to improve the quality and quantity of students and courses.

"There is today a shortage in Israel of over 10,000 high-tech engineers and computer programmers."

Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel also stressed the need for further well-trained high-tech employees. "The problem today, the check that puts a hold on the expansion of high tech, is not a shortage of markets, it's a shortage of trained manpower."

At the other end of the academic scale, Neeman said there is no reason children should begin learning to read, write and do arithmetic at age six when computer technology allows a three year old to so do.

Neeman told his audience there are no miracles and that the economy "needs a steady policy of restraint."

By reducing inflation to somewhere below five percent this year and keeping to the multi-year budget deficit target, the government "hopes to create our stability again."

Although urging caution, Neeman said there are signs that an economic recovery could be closer at hand than first thought, pointing to first-quarter growth in industrial production (7%) and industrial exports (16%).

Neeman said Monday's $287 million sale of Mirabilis to America Online was "a sign of *what we can do in this country.*"

Following the session, Neeman said he would not comment on reports that he has instructed Accountant General Shai Talmon to sell an additional 15 percent of Bank Leumi on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. "I will not comment publicly on issues concerning the capital markets," he said.

Krueger: Foreigners waiting for tax cuts to invest here

By DAVID HARRIS

Some foreign investors are biding their time waiting for tax reductions before entering Israel, Lehman Brothers senior managing director Harvey Krueger told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

Speaking after addressing Hebrew University's board of governors' annual meeting, he said "foreign investors will see [reduction in taxes] as a positive [step]."

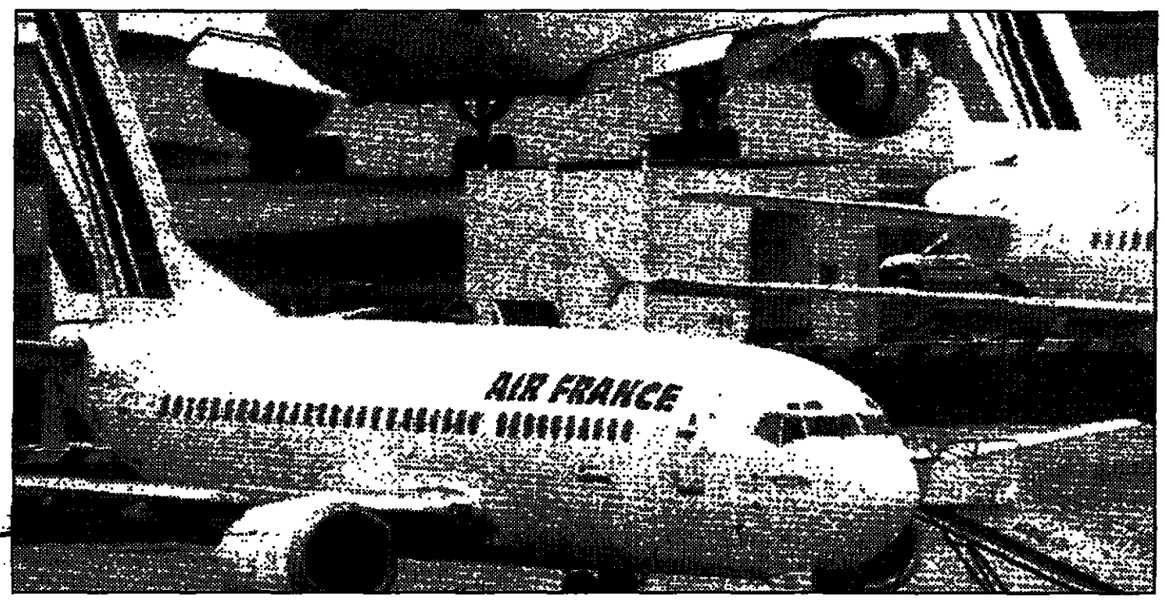
However, he added that other issues are also key to an investor's decision to enter the local market.

"I don't think that tax is the most important thing for foreign investment – it's stability and confidence in the lack of government interference."

As opposed to other major foreign investors here, Krueger does not believe the peace process is the be-all and end-all attraction to Israel, but he does attach considerable importance to events in recent years.

Harvey Krueger
(Ariel Jerozalemsky)

The peace process is "very important, but not as important as I expected. Israel since 1993 has enjoyed the results of the peace process. That signing on the White House lawn opened the world to markets. Investors will continue to come here. Obviously, if there is the opposite of peace, which is war, then there are going to be interruptions, but no *one is anticipating* that. Investors are anticipating that the peace process is inevitable whether or not it is, and investment, particularly in high tech and now in venture capital, is increasing."



Air France strike casts shadow on World Cup

Air France planes are grounded at Paris's Orly Airport yesterday, while an Air Liberté plane prepares to take off. A strike by Air France pilots, now in its ninth day, is casting a shadow over travel arrangements for the France '98 soccer World Cup, which kicks off today. (Reuters)

Number of jobless immigrants up 34%

Jerusalem Post Staff

Unemployment among immigrants increased 34.61 percent in the first quarter to 12.7%, meaning that 10,800 more immigrants are out of work since the same period last year, according to Central Bureau of Statistics figures published yesterday.

A total of 42,000 immigrants are currently unemployed.

The national unemployment rate stood at 8.4% on March 31, as against 7.4% a year earlier.

Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein expressed his dismay at the fact that unemployment among immigrants is rising faster than among veteran Israelis.

He once again called on Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman to adopt his proposals for investing in labor, particularly in advanced training for immigrants.

"The figures show it's a case of last in, first out," said Edelstein's spokesman Yehuda Glick.

Male unemployment totaled 12.1%, with that for women at 13.4% at the end of the first quarter.

Egypt votes to privatize banks

By SALAH NASRAWI

In a further move to step up Egypt's privatization program, *parliament has approved a government* bill that allows the sale of shares in state-owned banks, it was reported yesterday.

The 500-member People's Assembly voted on the bill in a general session Monday that was marred by heated discussions by opposition deputies, who accused the government of succumbing to pressures from the International Monetary Fund.

But the economic daily *Alam al-Yawm* quoted Prime Minister *Kamal Ganzoury, who presented* the bill, as saying the government will continue to control banking operations through the Central Bank, although it will not be a major shareholder.

Under the new law, which has to be endorsed by President Hosni Mubarak, the government will sell unlimited shares in four major commercial banks and several other development banks it now owns.

The law also stipulates that private investors will be limited to 10 percent of shares each, apparently to prevent monopoly on large shares by both local and foreign investors.

The head of the assembly's economic committee, Abdullah Tayel, said the move is expected to *improve efficiency of the banking* sector and bring more investment to the Egyptian economy.

But Khalid Moheidin, leader of the opposition socialist Progressive Unionist Party, told parliament that the privatization of the banks will put the Egyptian economy under foreign control. He and other opposition members voted against the bill.

Parliament endorsed another bill which allows the sale of shares in state-owned insurance companies.

Since then, Egypt's gross domestic product has grown from 2 percent to more than 5 percent. Inflation has fallen from 20 percent to under 4 percent and foreign currency reserves have risen to about $20 billion.

The country's major economic newspaper, *Al-Ahram Al-Iqtisadi*, reported last month that Egyptian banks in February registered assets totaling 205 trillion pounds ($60b.).

The four main state banks which will be privatized are the National Bank of Egypt, the Bank of Alexandria, Banque du Caire, and Banque Misr. (AP)

Frenkel on currency reform:

Second best is better than fourth

By DAVID HARRIS

The recent currency reform was implemented on time, without accompanying tax changes because "second-best if better than fourth-best," Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

Frenkel was asked by the *Post* whether it would have been better to have introduced necessary tax reforms simultaneously with the currency measures which went into effect just after Independence Day.

"The experience of the world and Israel shows that if you want to find pretexts for slowing down the speed of reforms and liberalization it's always possible," Frenkel replied.

"One can always present the best option as being that all the elements are in place before implementation but in the world of politics that can be a recipe for *paralysis. Therefore I recommend*ed, and I'm happy it was implemented, to progress as much as possible and make as much ground as we can in the spheres of liberalization," he continued.

Frenkel added that restrictions on the ability of institutional investors to invest abroad will only be lifted after the tax changes are put into practice.

The proof of the success of this move can been seen in the fact that there has been no capital flight with the dawning of liberalization, said the governor.

Frenkel dismissed the suggestion that Israelis are not taking advantage of the reform to invest overseas.

"The purpose of liberalization was not 'is it appropriate or not appropriate [to invest abroad].' It was more philosophical. The question was why should we prevent, *rather than permit.*"

The idea is for citizens to choose what they do with their own money, he said. "If you see an opportunity, seize it."

Meanwhile, economist Eytan Sheshinski of Jerusalem's Hebrew University suggested yesterday that Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman is encountering considerable difficulty in his efforts to introduce reforms to widen the tax base and reduce the top tax levels.

"Neeman is suspiciously silent on that front," said Sheshinski. "I wish he could have his way."

He added that there are many tax exemptions that could be abandoned without hurting poorer people. *One such example would be* to remove tax exemptions in development towns where the low paid do not even reach the bottom tax bracket, but where the rich are paying little into state coffers.

US high-tech executives seek regional ventures

By NINA GILBERT

US and Israeli companies have a great deal to offer each other, as witnessed by huge deals, particularly in high-tech, telecommunications, and the Internet fields, Prime *Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said* yesterday in a meeting with US Commerce Department official Judith Barnett.

Barnett, deputy assistant secretary for Africa and the Near East, is leading a visit here by a delegation of senior executives from major US high-tech companies, part of a one-week regional tour that also included meetings in the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and Egypt.

The group includes vice presidents from GTE, QUALCOMM, Startec Global Communications, SBC, AT&T, Microsoft, Lucent Technologies and Motorola.

The aim of the mission is to arrange trilateral ventures among the US, Israel and the PA as a way to spur regional business links.

"We believe that the long-term future of the region depends on business that crosses the borders *of the region,*" said Edgar Fulton, the US Embassy's commercial counselor. "Both Israeli and Palestinian companies have repeatedly said to us that if American companies are involved, it brings an element of trust to the whole process."

Fulton also noted US companies that have had great success in establishing high-tech ventures here are interested in expanding their involvement with Palestinians, who can also be a link into business in the Arab world.

"This is a win-win situation that serves everyone's interests," he said. "*It also reinforces* what we are trying to do on the political level."

The mission, organized by the department, is the second of its type. Last year's mission resulted in deals valued at some $545 million, Barnett noted in the meeting with Netanyahu in Jerusalem.

Netanyahu said the government has decided to implement a plan to quadruple the number of university graduates in high-tech fields by the year 2003.

He said the shortfall of students in the disciplines is the main impediment to the continued growth of the high-tech sector.

The company officials are also to hold business meetings here with high-tech companies. The group also met with the Manufacturers Association and the finance, science and communications ministers.

Russia's prospects fade for $1.1b. debt sale

By NATALIA OLYNEC

MOSCOW (Bloomberg) – Russia's prospects for raising $1.1 billion at a debt auction today are fading after foreign lenders and leading industrialized nations said they likely won't offer a loan this week to support the ruble.

The benchmark RTS stock index, which has tumbled 33 percent in the past month, fell 4.3 percent to 196.45 as expectations dimmed that Russia would get a loan to ease its cash shortage.

The government must raise $5b. this month and $33b. this year to pay maturing debt, and central bank cash reserves are about $10b.

Finance Minister Mikhail Zadornov said Russia will sell another $2.5b. of foreign-currency bonds this year. RAO Gazprom, Russia's natural gas monopoly and largest company by market capitalization, offered to sell a stake of 2 percent or 3 percent of the company that is held by the government. That could raise as much as $975 million based on today's price of Gazprom American depositary receipts. The government also is offering 75 percent of state-owned oil company RAO Rosneft for at least $1.6b.

"You can refloat the Titanic if you want to – it's just much more expensive than preventing it from sinking in the first place," said Eric Kraus, chief strategist at Regent European Securities. "It's *not going to be words that get* investors back. This is going to be ugly if they don't win foreign financial backing."

Russia's borrowing costs are rising after *Standard & Poor's Corp.* lowered Russia's long-term foreign currency debt rating to B+ from BB- because of its increasing reliance on foreign borrowing after demand for ruble debt dried up in recent weeks. The rating is consistent with the rating by Moody's Investors Service, four notches below investment grade, and is one notch lower than S & P's rating for Lebanon.

The federal government's financial crisis also is reverberating through Russia's regions, which are at risk of defaulting on about $1b. in domestic bonds sold last year to cover federal loans to farmers.

Already, three regions – Orenburg in the southern Ural mountains, Chita in Eastern Siberia, and the Republic of Kalmykiya on the Caspian Sea – have defaulted on bonds totaling about 110 million rubles ($17.8 million), and analysts said more defaults likely will follow. At least *three other regions will have to* pay maturing farm bonds by the end of this month.

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The Business Scene
By Greer Fay Cashman

Edward Hamburg (left), senior vice president of corporate operations and chief financial officer of SPSS, Inc. was the keynote lecturer at the recent SPSS-Israel fair, which takes place annually in Tel Aviv. SPSS began with software packages for social sciences and has achieved international esteem for reporting, analysis and modeling software. Hamburg, pictured with **Tal Laor** (right), CEO of SPSS-Israel, spent half a year in 1971 studying political science at Tel Aviv University's program for overseas students.

The Board of Directors of Koor subsidiary Telrad has approved the appointment of **Mair Laiser** as chairman of the Telrad board.

Yair Naman has been transferred from the position of head of the finances division of Koor to that of vice president and chief financial officer of Tadiran. He replaces **Yossi Ben-Shalom**, who has been appointed vice president of Koor Finances. Both positions become effective on July 1.

Moti Orenstein, 49, has been appointed chairman of the board of Class Clinic, a newly established private medical center operating at the Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer. The clinic prides itself on its advanced medical techiques for asthetic improvement. Orenstein is the proprietor of Pelmot, which initiates and manages investments in hotels and retirement homes.

Businessman **Dov Raviv**, who has varied experience in the insurance, management and marketing industries in Israel and the US, has been appointed Israel representative of the State of Utah International Business Development Office, which is located in Tel Aviv. The office is managed by **Anat Vered**, a graduate of the Management College.

ILAN, the Israel Foundation for Handicapped Children, has announced three appointments. Prof. **Raphael Yudasin**, head of the Pediatric Surgery Unit at Hadassah Hospital, Mount Scopus, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the ILAN Home for the Handicapped in the Jerusalem suburb of Gilo. There, 68 severely handicapped adults (including nine married couples) receive nursing care around the clock. **Benny Ben-Zvi**, director of the Pisgat Ze'ev Mall and Technological Park has been appointed to the Board of Directors of ILAN's Jerusalem branch. Finally, **Uri Weiss**, a former comptroller for the Jewish Agency, has been appointed comptroller for ILAN-Jerusalem.

New regional directors of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel include: **Janine Bahar**, Jerusalem region; **David London**, northern region; **Nancy Block Jelinek**, southern region; and **Amy Ouzen**, Haifa region.

Yossi Levy, 28, has been appointed executive chef for Vita. In his new role, he will give culinary counseling to institutions supplied by Vita. He will also be involved in the development of new products and new recipes and will be available to catering and cooking schools. A Tadmor graduate, Levy was an assistant chef at the Tel Aviv Hilton and deputy executive chef at Tadmor.

Gurit Shemer, 40, of Kibbutz Gonen, has been appointed head of the Big Apple, the new visitors' center at Galilee Cider. Trained in hotel management, Shemer has served as kibbutz treasurer and secretary. He also founded and managed the tourist center at Kibbutz Gonen.

The bank-bone of the market

Recent interest in Israeli bank stocks has led to a healthy overall rerating for the sector, which is trading at a hefty discount to bank shares abroad

By NEIL COHEN

Although the market has been holding up well, it is actually made up of two-tiers. One tier consists of the privatization stocks and those involved in corporate activity, which in many cases are the same. The other tier is most of the rest of the market.

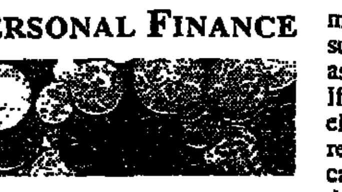
This past week, interest has been focused on a small number of stocks, namely the banks. The main event was the offering by United Mizrahi Bank, the last of the main banks to return to the market after the the bank shares' collapse. Unlike the other three banks to pass into state ownership, UMB has come back after control had already been sold into private hands. Consequently, much of the hard work has already been done by the new owners, and the bank is a much healthier proposition than it was before the controlling stake was sold. This explains the strong interest in the offering and the fact that it's going for well above the minimum price.

The market knows that the sale of a controlling stake in IDB is not far away, and Leumi will probably follow. Both stocks have attracted considerable interest as a result. All this has led to a healthy overall rerating for the banking sector which trades at a hefty discount to bank stocks abroad. Israeli bank stocks traded on the TASE currently go for about 120 percent of book value. IDB trades at around book and Leumi, Hapoalim and First International at about 12 times earnings. Banks in Europe and the US are currently valued at about 3 times book and north of 20 times earnings.

Why the huge difference? The banking industry across the world, particularly in the US and parts of Europe, is undergoing radical change which is driven by two forces: technology and consolidation. Historically, banks have been unwieldy and rather inefficient organizations which have required huge and ever-increasing investments in bricks and mortar (their branch networks) and similar investments in manpower.

The huge advances made in information technology, from electronic funds transfer, to automated check processing, to on-line banking, have dramatically reduced the need for branch networks and for huge staffs. Banks around the world have made massive investments in information technology. The resulting savings have flowed straight to their bottom lines.

Personal Finance



Like many industries before them, banks have realized that for the most part, size dominates. There are multiple motivations for growth by acquisition in the banking business. To begin with, the bigger your balance sheet the lower your cost for borrowing in the money markets, the larger the spread between the price at which you lend and that at which you borrow, so the more profit you make. There are economies of scale across your business and the more customers you have, be they borrowers or depositors, the more products you can cross-sell to more people.

Last, but not least, is a slightly more complex financial consideration. If banks, as they inevitably do, earn more each year in profit than they distribute in dividends to their shareholders, their capital increases by several percent each year. This capital growth typically exceeds balance sheet growth (the bank's organic growth of loans and deposits). This trend makes it extremely difficult to sustain high levels of profitability as measured by return on equity. If they wish to maintain their levels of return, banks must either return ever-increasing amounts of capital to shareholders, which they are loath to do, or grow through externally generated opportunities, most typically acquisition.

Acquisitions not only reduce industry overcapacity by increasing economies of scale, but also by applying one bank's "excess" capital to supporting the acquired bank's assets. This leads to enhanced profits growth. Overlapping branches can be closed and sold off; back office, management, regulatory, reporting and other expenses can be eliminated.

Unlike in the US where "small" banks are typically community banks with modest branch networks and local customer bases, the smaller Israeli banks tend to have some kind of specialization. There are several little mortgage banks, though Carmel Bank aspires to a full commercial license while Bank of Jerusalem has an expanding private banking unit. Israel General Bank, one of the country's most profitable banks as measured by return on equity, specializes in private banking. Maritime Bank focuses on the capital markets – and so on.

Not surprisingly, the main acquisition in this group was Israel General Bank, which was bought from the Rothschilds by Investec, a fast-growing and acquisitive South African banking group. This said, both Carmel Bank and Maritime Bank changed hands a few years ago, though neither seems to have brought its new owners very much joy.

In the US there has been a tremendous amount of acquisition activity among smaller banks, as larger ones have acquired regional and even suburban deposits and depositors, loan books and borrowers.

On the contrary, in this country, there seems to be little action to be had among the smaller banks. We are clearly overbanked, with five big banks with full national branch networks and two mid-sized banks (Mercantile and Union Bank), though the big two dominate their smaller brethren.

It seems almost certain that there will be consolidation in the banking business over the next few years, with the five big and two-medium size players probably becoming a total of three or four players. The banks may be challenged in certain areas (especially money management, where despite poor returns to investors and extreme inefficiency, they maintain dominant market share), but it is only a matter of time before they, in profit-motivated private hands, become much more efficient. To do so, the banks are likely to cut back their workforces and rationalize their branch networks, dramatically improving their returns on capital and probably trading at much higher multiples of earnings and book.

The obvious candidates to own are Leumi and Discount, as control of them has yet to be sold, but I am bullish on all the banking shares in the long term and will look for the right opportunities to increase our exposure to the sector. I am interested in owning UMB but would like the dust to settle after the offering before deciding what security to buy.

The writer works in the investment industry and may hold positions in securities mentioned in the column. This column should not be taken as advice to buy, sell or continue to hold any securities and anyone acting on the advice of this column does so at his or her own risk.

Neil's Portfolio

General Share Index as of 3/5/98: 174.89 3/6/98: 281.07

* All money values in NIS unless otherwise noted

		No. of shares	Cost/share	Total cost	Current price	Current value
Conservative	Citrus Properties convertible	10,416.60	0.96	10,025	1.12	11,749.92
	Teva	7.24	1,035.60	7,499	1,526.00	11,051.29
	Bank Tefahot	6.22	1,303.34	8,101	2,140.00	13,300.96
	Clal Israel	143.68	69.60	10,025	106.10	15,244.34
	Carmel Container	341.00	59.00	10,020	58.75	10,899.64
	Dan Hotels	425.65	8.81	3,769	10.80	4,596.99
	Jafora Tabori	556.80	8.98	5,025	8.20	4,565.76
	Ytong	640.00	7.79	5,010	9.15	5,856.00
	IDB	1,432.66	3.49	5,025	4.68	6,704.85
	Koor	28.00	357.05	10,017	465.00	13,020.00
	Bezeq	625.00	12.00	7,520	11.91	7,443.75
	1 month cash deposit at 11%					55,173.12
	Total portfolio value			100,000		159,606.60
Aggressive	Lazrik Commercial ordinary	4,314.51	1.24	5,775	1.24	5,371.57
	Clal Electronics	16.31	283.28	4,641	559.00	9,118.97
	Tower Semiconductor	292.00	$5.75	6,584	$8.13	8,666.74
	Israel Chemicals	3,488.37	2.58	9,023	4.97	17,337.20
	Delek Auto	1,219.88	3.32	4,075	6.98	8,514.76
	Biotech General	224.00	$11.00	8,482	$8.56	7,006.45
	Discount Investments	120.00	81.62	9,819	114.80	13,776.00
	Israel Corporation	47.33	211.30	10,025	279.00	13,203.95
	Orda Print	180.33	41.59	7,525	38.00	6,852.54
	Ayalon Insurance	729.93	6.85	5,020	5.32	3,883.23
	A. Levy warrant	4,854.37	1.03	5,020	1.10	5,315.54
	1 month cash deposit at 11%					64,599.15
	Total portfolio value			100,000		163,646.10
Defensive	AlRov4 Convertible	5,847.95	.86	5,020	.77	4,502.92
	ZurShamir3 convertible	5,208.33	.96	5,020	.95	4,947.91
	1 Month deposit at 12%					98,841.15
	Total portfolio value			100,000		108,292.00

To Our Readers

Some of the advertisements appearing in our papers are type set outside The Post. When such an advertisement arrives just before the publication deadline, especially when it is provided in the form of a film, it is difficult for us to correct any spelling mistakes that may appear.

While we make every effort to correct such errors, we must ask our readers' indulgence for those occasions when this is not possible.

The Advertising Department

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Mutual Funds

FLEXIBLE

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Abir	237.45	236.72	+0.61	+7.47	20.2
Adar Flexible	111.20	109.76	+1.08	+9.18	30.3
Alkum Flexible	213.81	211.06	+1.82	+2.36	20.7
Ahrayut Flexible	561.71	551.78	+1.04	+9.96	3.1
Alomot Flexible	112.93	111.03	+1.23	—	11.1
Analyst Deversified	825.91	806.82	+1.14	+11.51	73.7
Apex Flexible	187.46	186.86	0.00	+20.41	35.7
Arumedes	117.00	114.69	+0.51	+22.26	1.4
Avuka	2106.33	2099.45	-2.35	-10.44	5.9
Bloch Rotstein Flexible	252.85	247.70	+1.40	+19.86	40.8
Clal Flexible	1236.29	1232.36	-0.09	+7.67	5.4
Dikla Mamon	299.87	297.62	+0.37	+12.89	29.3
Dikla Meirav	206.22	205.51	-0.58	-14.26	13.3
Dikla Moked	3644.73	3617.55	+0.50	-8.36	82.3
Dovrat Shrem Flexible	184.64	180.82	+0.77	+1.59	43.0
Emda Idit	4456.85	4410.03	+2.13	+11.60	34.8
Epsilon Flexible	182.87	182.31	+2.21	+17.31	12.4
Evergreen Flexible	132.81	131.66	-0.05	-8.26	10.4
Excellence Flexible	3305.40	3262.88	+1.18	+12.82	8.3
Igud Bonds	105.20	104.71	+0.31	+0.44	7.3
Igud Flexible	177.11	175.99	-0.19	+3.51	24.1
Igud Shikin	139.29	139.29	+0.29	+6.76	307.9
Ilanot 30 Plus	168.54	165.59	-0.25	-8.20	4.3
Ilanot 30	286.31	281.27	+1.07	+12.13	28.4
Ilanot Tidhar	3636.26	3617.95	+1.27	+11.95	81.4
Kivun Flexible	134.78	134.24	-1.33	+11.07	8.2
Lahak Duhifat	815.17	812.72	+1.63	+10.88	76.9
Lamashkia	—	—	—	—	6.2
Lapid	1778.07	1778.07	+2.03	+10.80	6.2
Maofim Bonds	103.40	102.42	+0.45	—	6.3
Maofim Flexible	173.10	169.97	-1.60	+23.67	16.7
Maritime Flexible Fund	109.52	107.57	-0.07	+18.84	12.5
Meitav Flexible	175.02	173.15	+0.08	+11.00	3.5
Melanium	114.49	112.73	+1.18	+11.26	0.7
Models Flexible	119.69	117.25	+2.04	+5.70	10.4
Models Teuza	105.87	103.66	+0.51	-9.45	4.8
Moritz Money Market	139.76	139.76	+0.34	+5.99	17.2
Nesua Flexible	2856.92	2838.45	+2.31	+10.45	12.1
Netz	143.41	142.74	-1.78	-16.58	0.5
Noga	932.66	920.58	-0.41	+7.95	46.8
Omer Pekan	216.19	214.40	+1.47	+6.00	24.4
Otzar Flexible	110.23	108.36	+0.12	+9.08	5.2
Pia Hayovel	244.15	242.85	+1.33	+21.38	35.3
Pia Kola	1003.95	998.95	+1.86	+11.10	325.3
Psagot Gemish	666.62	654.82	+1.40	+15.73	164.1
Psagot Megama	388.84	386.73	-0.13	+15.89	96.0
Ramco Flexible	184.78	182.58	+0.88	-8.43	6.9
Saar Flexible	246.09	242.80	+1.82	+11.82	6.3
Saar Pekan	213.53	212.86	+1.61	+10.97	209.0
Sigma Flexible	115.95	114.74	+2.27	+14.92	10.0
Sivan	320.10	315.98	+3.48	+21.21	82.0
Telescope	130.49	130.08	+0.73	+3.28	3.0
Yaad Flexible	111.49	111.23	+1.32	+11.49	5.5
Yesodot	3415.70	3355.24	+0.40	+10.97	40.3
Zeller Flexible	96.30	95.28	+1.10	+2.48	4.2
Zion Flexible	18204.96	18145.38	+3.68	-28.66	7.3

SHARES

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Adif Pekan	128.50	128.23	+1.32	+9.34	47.3
Alliom Shares	307.56	303.57	+2.51	+9.43	17.9
Ahrayut Oil & Shares	144.27	141.40	+0.02	-8.25	1.8
Ahrayut Real Estate	242.18	237.32	-0.28	+7.54	8.7
Ahrayut Shares	366.96	360.40	+1.10	+9.61	4.2
Analyst Aggressive	171.87	167.88	-0.62	+12.59	62.1
Analyst Equity	1359.79	1328.58	+1.95	+14.35	161.9
Analyst Industries	419.73	410.05	+2.30	+13.43	62.5
Apex Shares	122.55	122.14	-0.45	+22.54	17.5
Atlas Pekan	—	—	—	—	36.1
Baron	243.36	242.64	+0.56	+12.56	15.3
Bloch Rotstein Shares	131.28	128.64	-1.72	+28.83	12.3
Capital Shares	109.22	107.81	+2.12	+18.19	4.2
Chemical Pekan	130.70	128.41	+0.02	+9.49	8.4
Clal Maof	282.03	281.20	+3.56	+14.57	28.3
Clal Shares & Conv.	168.66	168.12	+0.37	+13.36	2.7
Dikla Maagal	117.98	117.05	+0.36	+13.27	18.5
Dikla Madad Maof	240.20	238.91	+3.31	+15.02	69.1
Dikla Meretz	606.39	601.79	+1.88	+14.99	83.1
Dikla Mihan	132.63	131.58	-0.40	-8.03	50.3
Dikla Migzar Finance	149.23	148.13	+2.65	+18.68	39.9
Dikla Mikud 30	81.30	81.08	-0.88	+11.67	46.4
Dikla Mivneh	387.86	384.81	+1.35	+7.84	30.3
Dikla Mondial	—	—	—	—	18.6
Dikla Mor	1743.82	1730.27	+0.80	+11.05	105.1
Dovrat Shrem 100	123.48	120.96	+1.34	+10.48	22.8
Dovrat Shrem Yeter	135.51	132.67	-0.37	+6.44	16.1
Emda Export	96.52	95.55	+1.77	+12.97	11.6
Emda High Tech	—	—	—	—	11.4
Emda Maof	250.31	248.42	+3.40	+15.16	47.4
Emda Paz	207.08	204.93	+1.77	+12.90	13.5
Emda Shalhevet	190.84	189.42	+2.67	+18.11	16.6
Emda T-A 100	2309.02	2284.56	+2.38	+13.70	57.8
Emda Yeter	1770.33	1751.52	-0.33	-6.02	28.5
Epsilon 36	124.72	124.29	+2.95	+23.02	31.5
Epsilon Shares	217.39	216.58	+1.14	+18.00	19.5
Erez Pekan	389.68	382.70	+2.59	+16.06	174.9
Esh	659.43	646.53	+0.65	+7.55	2.4
Evergreen High Tech.	—	—	—	—	16.7
Evergreen Shares	177.97	176.43	+0.37	+10.11	23.7
Excellence Agresive	290.51	287.44	-0.26	+20.61	10.3
Excellence Shares	700.26	696.65	+1.49	+21.49	7.7
Eyal Shares	157.45	157.45	+1.61	+16.92	10.2
Gai	132.97	131.27	+2.59	+14.65	17.6
Hon Pekan	128.69	128.31	+3.11	+15.31	76.8
Igud Maof	109.52	109.40	+3.02	+15.13	11.7
Igud Shares	162.55	161.52	-0.27	+10.16	14.2
Igud Yeter	118.99	118.27	-1.35	+9.13	16.1
Ilanot Caramim	184.41	182.99	-0.36	+10.41	104.0
Ilanot Communication	122.96	123.28	-1.38	+14.12	86.7
Ilanot Dekel	3617.81	3554.46	+1.36	+13.46	112.7
Ilanot Finance	112.17	111.57	+2.60	+17.81	16.5
Ilanot Globe	—	—	—	—	15.2
Ilanot Maof	237.52	236.40	+3.46	+15.62	67.1
Ilanot Nadlan	1603.61	1591.09	+1.56	—	35.2
Ilanot Nimrezet	97.95	97.14	+0.58	+13.44	7.2
Ilanot Shares	5677.40	5577.89	+1.05	+10.97	11.2
Ilanot Snchakim	66.60	66.62	+1.06	+13.39	20.2
Ilanot Shesek	1048.27	1023.82	+1.35	+12.89	137.6
Ilanot T-A 100	3199.68	3183.04	+1.52	+14.59	82.8
Israel America	—	—	—	—	1.3
Kohav Pekan	195.00	194.40	-1.80	+17.07	116.2
Koor Money Market	134.29	134.29	+0.34	+8.10	249.2
Koor Shares	110.36	108.94	-1.64	+17.33	10.5
Lahak Agresivit Plus	101.25	99.58	-3.29	+13.78	27.7
Lahak Ankor	1004.20	981.57	+1.89	+15.69	41.5
Lahak Dividends	380.21	379.24	-2.50	+23.29	78.8
Lahak Menayot Yeter	129.03	128.01	-0.49	+13.69	55.7
Lahak Nadlan	147.26	144.65	+1.18	+12.24	36.3
Lahak TA-Wall Street	—	—	—	—	25.5
Lahak Tor 100	502.19	493.33	+2.74	+14.94	88.4
Lahak Yetsu	86.50	85.24	+0.20	+15.90	52.1
Lahak Zamir	960.24	943.14	+1.21	+15.80	74.7
Maale Maof Pekan	214.86	211.07	+3.25	+12.65	73.0
Magic	289.11	283.01	+1.01	+8.48	9.8
Meitav Options	56.31	55.45	+2.02	+33.29	14.2
Meitav Shares	234.73	232.28	+1.78	+13.86	5.8
Meitav Teuza	128.98	127.62	+0.81	+16.41	7.1
Mercazit Caram Maniv	73.40	73.18	-0.16	+10.29	3.2
Mercazit Maof	225.29	224.63	+3.46	+14.54	2.4
Mercazit TA 100	295.04	294.17	+2.51	+12.83	3.2
Meringal Dynamic	114.43	114.27	+1.73	+14.54	13.6
Neocha Continental	65.23	64.25	-0.23	+11.76	16.0
Nesua Shares	504.31	500.91	+1.26	+11.80	8.1
Nili T-A 100	1170.34	1155.94	+2.32	+13.33	23.0
Omega	126.85	124.61	-0.44	+2.02	2.2
Otzar Foreign Int. Par.	156.77	159.77	+0.45	+12.69	2.8
Otzar Shares	125.03	122.88	+0.29	+10.28	7.0
Otzar Yeter	92.99	91.37	-1.35	+4.29	5.6
Pekan T-A 100	132.62	132.39	+2.90	+13.01	65.1
Pia 2000	105.48	103.61	-0.48	+13.37	27.9
Pia Bodlach T-A 100	1164.16	1143.69	+2.79	+14.65	96.9
Pia Manof	159.35	156.50	+0.70	+20.34	51.4
Pia Maof	229.41	225.37	+3.00	+15.11	103.3
Pia Michlol	337.55	981.92	+1.50	+13.57	138.1
Pia Orem	1396.93	1369.39	+1.79	+18.01	180.3
Pia Olamit	—	—	—	—	37.8
Pia Yahalom	1231.00	1209.24	+1.94	+16.52	75.2
Pia Zinuk	72.95	71.66	-1.04	+14.71	45.3
Pniza	—	—	—	—	0.7
Psagot 20	100.37	100.09	+0.64	—	206.9
Psagot Al	102.28	101.72	-2.44	+19.52	39.3
Psagot Focus	126.30	124.64	+0.65	+15.16	116.2
Psagot High Tech	—	—	—	—	66.9
Psagot Karam	217.31	213.44	-0.53	+15.49	65.1
Psagot Mabal Lashalom	152.93	150.23	-0.03	+17.78	46.8
Psagot Menayot	986.92	981.56	-0.25	+17.55	194.1
Psagot T-A 100	448.37	445.99	+1.86	+21.92	236.8
Raam 30	175.13	171.68	+2.95	+16.95	7.2
Simodan Shares & Conv.	91.39	90.01	+3.27	+10.88	0.6
Singer Barnea Financial	134.57	132.20	+3.63	+17.84	0.6
Singer Barnea Shmura	169.37	168.88	+3.80	+19.94	3.0
Tsuot Sufa	173.07	172.14	+0.97	+19.86	28.3
Yaar	52.95	52.58	-5.57	+5.50	0.3
Zik	387.92	386.77	+0.77	+8.86	4.0
Zion Caram	100.82	100.46	-0.24	+6.22	7.8
Zion Shares	167.33	166.32	+3.74	+11.74	4.3

STATE BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Ahrayut State Bonds	454.73	449.18	+0.24	+2.80	4.7
Almog Pekan	283.99	278.95	-0.19	-3.30	114.8
Analyst Government Bonds	403.94	398.75	+0.32	+1.76	32.0
Clal Dotan	1260.84	1257.65	+0.38	+1.93	5.0
Clal State Bonds	488.41	487.18	+0.25	+1.94	6.4
Dikla Marom	6482.92	6436.43	+0.13	+5.02	35.0
Dikla Mivtah	1775.17	1762.01	+0.24	+5.69	33.7
Ducas	256.76	252.27	+0.24	+2.94	14.5
Emda Goverment Bond	1087.50	1079.32	+0.18	-1.73	49.2
Emda Leshem	1464.47	1450.22	+0.73	+0.07	28.5
Emda Sella	1440.80	1430.26	+0.92	+5.02	50.4
Epsilon Gov't Bonds	215.54	214.86	+0.69	+8.35	16.3
Geva	418.67	413.48	+0.44	+2.57	89.1
Hilla Pekan	545.39	545.39	-0.05	+1.95	161.9
Ilanot Egoz	1181.10	1172.24	+0.44	+3.76	52.1
Ilanot Gov't Bonds	2484.72	2467.64	+0.07	+4.90	3.0
Ilanot Tapuah	677.50	674.29	+0.19	-1.50	31.6
Ilanot Tapuz	1107.26	1098.98	+0.50	+2.59	102.1
Lahak Efroni	546.14	544.56	-0.06	-1.99	37.7
Lahak Shahaf	153.91	151.23	+0.11	+4.26	53.7
Lahak Snunit	702.31	689.97	+0.14	+3.54	91.4
Maritime Government Bond	162.36	160.11	-0.28	+6.71	11.6
Meitav Gov't Bonds	123.86	122.89	+0.26	+4.65	10.1
Mekorit Pekan	116.79	116.69	-0.03	-0.63	18.5
Mercazit Gov't Bonds	160.44	159.25	+0.25	+3.84	6.8
Nesua Gov't Bonds	1422.46	1415.52	+0.75	+6.88	37.7
Otzar Gov't Bonds	155.53	152.85	+0.33	+2.08	14.2
Pia Conv' Bonds 50	244.10	242.28	+0.26	—	23.6
Pia Tarshish	141.16	138.69	+0.06	+1.41	250.9
Pia Zamid	4845.90	4760.80	+0.52	+2.31	160.0
Psagot Agach	608.82	597.95	-0.10	+6.82	51.4
Psagot Maala	444.54	441.03	+0.37	+3.52	52.9
Psagot Madad	570.59	560.50	-0.05	+1.53	87.0
Shavit Pekan	707.43	705.35	-0.58	+1.82	142.5
Sigma Gov't Bonds	140.87	139.17	+0.94	+3.66	1.3
Yaara Pekan	580.37	570.12	-0.23	-1.27	63.6
Yavul Pekan	756.64	743.23	+0.26	+0.79	155.4
Ziv	625.78	617.82	+0.37	+1.69	41.2
Zohar	524.86	518.26	+0.41	+3.15	38.2

COMPANY BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Aliom Bonds	320.19	316.17	+0.82	-4.51	40.8
Ahrayut Bonds	194.60	191.26	+0.26	-1.62	5.5
Amirim	130.83	129.85	+0.23	+0.25	24.4
Analyst Corporate Bonds	294.67	289.45	+0.92	+2.96	94.8
Analyst Money Market	160.64	160.18	+0.26	+5.64	15.7
Apex Tsua	146.38	145.93	+0.43	+9.74	51.7
Bloch Rotstein Bonds	170.49	168.04	+0.26	+7.57	13.7
Bond	165.20	164.11	-0.89	+1.57	12.4
Capital Bonds	159.20	158.04	+0.46	+6.93	11.5
Clal Company Debentures	209.41	208.91	+0.07	+2.03	3.1
Clal Gen Bond Rating	103.23	102.92	+0.29	—	12.7
Clal Zmina	181.41	181.41	+0.28	+6.52	67.2
Dikla Maayan	1010.76	1003.60	+0.26	+5.12	52.9
Dikla Magen Plus	103.82	103.82	+0.25	—	317.1
Dikla Maskoret Plus	147.93	147.93	-0.28	+6.32	360.3
Dikla Meimad	467.59	463.94	+0.57	+7.23	22.7
Dikla Mirvah	630.48	625.79	+0.26	+2.23	25.5
Dikla Mivhar	577.08	572.89	+0.18	+2.77	34.8
Dikla Nigvan	2103.24	2088.40	+0.43	+5.21	96.7
Dovrat Shrem Bonds	173.02	170.40	+0.71	+2.52	60.6
Emda Dynami Magen	111.39	111.39	-0.85	+6.35	57.8
Emda Halamish	168.93	167.27	+0.86	+3.70	18.6
Emda Hamara	1154.81	1143.15	+0.63	+1.36	51.4
Emda Shikit	103.34	103.34	+0.31	+6.04	587.6
Emda Zuk	339.42	337.73	-0.43	-0.27	15.4
Epsilon Corp. Bonds	134.68	134.27	+1.52	+7.08	21.6
Epsilon Money Market	153.21	153.21	+0.29	+7.69	208.5
Evergreen Shkoola	160.70	159.80	-0.07	+4.60	35.0
Excellence Bonds	2147.76	2120.28	-0.13	+4.68	13.9
Eyal Corporate Bonds	150.81	150.25	+0.66	-0.08	5.1
Eyal Shotef	141.63	141.63	+0.30	+6.82	13.9
Guy	745.47	736.07	+1.44	+7.56	123.9
Hetz Pekan	614.11	614.11	+0.27	+5.97	840.2
I.B.I Shkalim	151.08	151.08	+0.30	+6.72	123.9
Igud Magen Shikit	102.86	102.86	+0.45	—	18.5
Ilanot Agas	454.17	450.80	+0.42	+2.58	44.5
Ilanot Alon	1997.45	1982.50	+0.40	+2.86	41.8
Ilanot Armon	143.18	142.16	+0.25	+1.85	23.0
Ilanot Conv'bonds	3176.74	3151.90	+0.90	+1.28	7.3
Ilanot Eshel	810.22	804.20	+0.55	+4.97	97.8
Ilanot Elrog	1089.14	1083.38	+0.71	+2.88	60.8
Ilanot Muvtahat	111.86	111.86	+0.84	+7.57	45.7
Ilanot Oren	4251.75	4230.32	+0.74	+5.14	139.4
Ilanot Orion	185.49	184.10	+0.68	+4.81	28.3
Ilanot Rimon	571.33	571.33	+0.27	+6.23	
Ilanot Shahar	237.61	236.47	+0.22	+1.86	33.8
Ilanot Shaked	239.27	237.53	+0.22	+1.97	38.6
Ilanot Shkoola	171.67	170.34	+0.47	+4.76	77.8
Keshet Pekan	446.65	439.01	+0.43	-2.14	37.8
Koor Amitar Bonds	205.35	204.75	-0.14	—	17.5
Lahak Conv. Bonds	239.44	239.44	+0.69	+0.07	84.4
Lahak Magen 95%	161.24	151.24	+0.96	+6.33	158.7
Lahak Yascor	189.67	183.67	+0.27	+5.77	1617
Malkarit Pekan	336.88	330.96	+0.91	+5.63	29.5
Meitav Corp. Conv. Bonds	153.41	152.19	+0.72	+4.06	11.1
Meitav Money Market	120.24	120.24	+0.29	+6.15	3.8
Mercazit Conv. Bonds	471.56	470.14	+0.01	+5.91	3.8
Models Shmura	111.69	110.53	+0.83	+2.46	15.4
Nesua Corporate Bonds	185.30	184.90	+0.52	+1.30	12.2
Otzar Shkalim	134.44	134.44	+0.30	+6.03	100.5
Pia Hallin	543.52	543.52	+0.29	+6.12	623.6
Pia Mogenet	110.12	110.12	+0.82	+7.90	97.7
Pia Ophir	610.92	607.88	+0.32	+3.22	98.8
Pia Or	1162.26	1141.68	+0.57	+3.54	114.1
Pia Segula	278.77	273.87	+0.59	+2.32	44.1
Pia Shamir	1303.64	1280.67	+0.31	-1.00	115.3
Pia Shkalim Adif	108.19	108.19	+0.30	+7.86	944.1
Pia Tnufa	376.11	369.45	-0.21	+0.56	27.9
Pia Yozma	233.58	229.45	+0.26	-0.51	26.6
Pil	299.54	296.66	+0.15	+2.89	5.4
Psagot Hagana Plus	109.95	109.95	+1.17	+8.47	120.6
Psagot Kol Rega	233.58	233.58	+0.28	+6.57	1417
Psagot Tashlumim	106.19	104.36	+0.25	+4.65	29.2
Psagot Yatsira	624.22	613.24	+0.30	+6.01	195.9
Simodan Bonds	123.70	121.57	+1.46	-1.72	1.5
Simodan Interest	145.51	145.51	+0.27	+5.00	20.0
Tsuot Hen	174.76	173.88	+0.02	+3.72	27.3
Yaad	256.36	255.09	+0.26	-1.07	0.0
Zeller Conv. Bonds	121.53	120.82	-1.68	-11.17	3.1
Zion Bonds	1991.09	1980.34	+0.12	+0.73	6.7
Zion Gov't Bonds	111.35	111.06	+0.11	+6.57	4.1

FOREIGN CURRENCY

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Afikim Foreign	—	—	—	—	28.0
Analyst Europe	—	—	—	—	27.9
Capital Foreign	—	—	—	—	2.6
Dikla Meged	1004.37	998.27	+1.13	+6.87	48.4
Dollar	—	—	—	—	8.3
Emda Teval	—	—	—	—	55.1
Igud Foreign Currency	100.29	100.09	+0.53	—	4.7
Ilanot Dolev	944.12	939.30	+1.03	+6.75	121.1
Ilanot Hul	—	—	—	—	61.1
Ilanot Ilan S.	—	—	—	—	44.8
Ilanot Matach	—	—	—	—	17.2
Inbal Pekan	180.14	180.14	+1.14	+6.49	302.4
Lahak Cosmos S.	—	—	—	—	5.3
Lahak Matach	603.52	603.52	+1.11	+5.99	248.5
Lak Kahal	—	—	—	—	60.3
Maritime Foreign Fund	—	—	—	—	0.7
Meitav Foreign Currency	299.20	296.84	+0.76	+7.26	6.3
Moriah Pekan S	—	—	—	—	20.7
Otzar Universe	—	—	—	—	15.8
Pia Chul	—	—	—	—	135.1
Pia Inbar	120.47	118.34	+1.01	+5.12	178.8
Pia Prime $	—	—	—	—	29.9
Pia Target $	—	—	—	—	127.7
Psagot Chul	—	—	—	—	85.9
Psagot Globe S.	—	—	—	—	76.2
Psagot Israel Horizon	—	—	—	—	72.8
Psagot Matah	551.09	541.21	+0.73	+6.19	188.1
Reshef Pekan	—	—	—	—	49.6
Rosen Continental	—	—	—	—	16.8
Tsabar Pekan	340.08	334.00	+1.34	+7.47	24.3

MIXED

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Eitan Pekan	358.79	352.44	+0.93	+5.22	88.3
Emda Kolelet	233.86	231.42	+0.74	+4.49	70.8
Goren Pekan	759.13	756.86	+0.81	+5.44	159.9
Ilanot Barak	3190.27	3134.85	+1.10	+10.85	43.7
Ilanot Brosh	3627.52	3564.38	+1.05	+9.85	73.3
Ilanot Mixed	3003.45	2950.27	+0.71	+3.89	8.1
Lahak Tzofit	800.96	798.82	+1.67	+10.54	155.2
Mad Dikla	149.29	148.27	+0.61	+6.08	19.5
Pekan Shikit Meshulevet	84.12	84.12	+0.36	—	185.3
Pia	8800.65	8745.03	+1.53	+7.79	176.7
Pia Gavish	7228.90	7100.18	+0.95	+8.50	234.9
Psagot Meshulevet	799.82	784.75	-0.26	+11.92	89.3

SOURCE: MEITAV Ltd - Managers of Mutual Funds and Security Investments
DATE:07-Jun-98

The mutual fund prices listed reflect the close of business on MONDAY. They should be used as a guide only and not as the basis for dealing. The Jerusalem Post is not responsible for the accuracy of the data.

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TEL AVIV 100 — LEADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Africa Hotels	459	-0.2
Africa Israel 0.1	23000	-2.2
Africa Israel 1	211000	-1.9
Agis	2590	-1.5
Al Paper Mills	16280	3.3
Al-Rov	2790	-2.2
Azorim	3310	-2.1
Azorim Prop.	660	-1.4
Bank Leumi 0.1	800	0.8
Baran	3000	0
Bayside 1	45100	0
Bayside 5	223000	0
Bezeq	1159	-1.8
Blue Square	4510	0.2
Bromine	2940	-1.4
Clal Electronics	56900	-0.2
Clal Industries	2010	0.5
Clal Insurance	4270	-1.9
Clal Israel 1	105.5	-1
Dan Hotels	1148	-0.1
Dankner	2060	-6.8
Darban	860	5.2
Dead Sea Works 0.1	985	0.5
Delek 0.1	15080	-2.1
Delek Car	714	2.7
Development Mort	26000	-1.9
Discount Bank	496	-0.6
Discount Inv.	11660	-0.6
Elbit 0.003	1050	0
Elbit Imaging	3060	2.3
Elbit system	5110	-1.6
Elco	1905	-3.1
Elco Industries	3700	0
Electra	17300	0.6
Electra App	1940	-0.8
Elite Ind. 1	2490	-2.4
Elite Ind. 5	12440	0.6
Elron 0.003	6430	-0.9
FIBI 5	71400	-0.8
First Int'l 1	57000	-1.1
First Int'l 5	289500	0
First Int'l Mort	55000	1.8
Formula	15180	-2.1
General Bank	10800	0
Granit Hacarmel	715	-1.7
Hadarim Prop.	7400	0
Ham-Lat	2100	0
Hapoalim 0.1	1181	0.8
Harel Mishmar 1	4480	1.8
Harel Mishmar 5	20300	-1
I.D.B. Dev.	9810	-0.5
I.D.B. Holdings	9580	-0.5
ILDC	2670	0
Ind Bldgs	635	-1.4
Israel Chemicals	485	-1.9
Israel Corp. 1	28000	0
Isrotel	669	2.1
Jafora	816	-0.5
JCT	38.5	0.8
JEC	2020	2.7
Klian	374	2.9
Knafaim	4790	0.8
Koor	48000	-0.2
Leader	1500	-1.9
Leumi Insurance	253	-1.2
Leumi Mortgage	87200	-2.1
Liraz	4720	-1.1
Makhteshim Agan Ind.	1269	-1.7
Maman	700	1.6
Matav	3820	-0.3
Mehadrin	15900	-0.6
Mei Eden	1619	0
Melisseron	1150	0.4
Menorah Ins. 1	2020	1
Milomor	1584	-2
Mishkan	70700	-2.5
Mizrahi Inv.	11250	-0.5
NATSVA REGULAR	1500	-1.3
Nice Systems	13859	4.5
Ocif	7770	-1
Orbit	1850	2.7
Ormat Industries	549	1.9
Osem Industries	1910	1.6
Petrochemicals	1957	-0.4
Phoenix Ins. 1	5810	-2.4
Poalim Inv.	13780	-1.5
Prop & Bldg	33100	-0.3
Salt Industries	2010	0
Solel Bone	4800	-0.2
Supersol	1298	-0.5
Tadiran	13280	1.2
Tambour	665	0
Tefahot	221000	-0.5
Tempo	1500	1.7
Teva	16290	1.2
Urdan	277	-3.2
Wire and Cables	1431	-0.6
Ytong Industries	945	0

KARAM — SMALL CAPITALIZATION TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Boulous GD	354	0
Solomon Holdings	449	0
Ablac	2.1	0
Abudi	44.9	5.9
Ace-Spade	90	7.8
Ackerstein Bond B	162.5	0
Ackerstein Ind.	499	0.4
Ackerstein Zvi 1	1498	0
Ackerstein Zvi 5	6762	0.3
adakom	36.5	0
Adanim	400460	0
Adler	118.5	-0.4
Adsha	149	8.2
Adumim	182	0
Africa Hotels Bond B	88	0
Africa Hotels Warrant 2	58	3.4
Africa Israel Hotels Bond A	130.5	-8.1
Alsek Ind	619	-6.8
Agis Warrant 3	34	-14.7
Agis Warrant 4	617	-2.4
Agish Int'l	345	0
Agri Investments	350	8.6
Al-Ben	153.5	10
Al-Ben Bond A	106.5	0
Alhe c2	96	0.2
Alhe w6	140.9	0
Alliance	850	0
Aloni	350	0
Alony-Hetz	489	-1.2
Alony-Hetz Bond A	235	0
Alrod	208	0
Alrod Warrant 1	7	0
Alrov Bond D	77.5	0
Alrov Warrant 5	315	-9.5
Alumir	180	-8
Alumit	3605	-3.2
Amigar	184	-0.6
Amisec	264	-1.9
Ammeil Warrant 1	17.5	0
Amnat	637	0
Ampa Investments	102002	0
Analyst EMS	1099	0
Angel Trade	38.2	-1.5
Angel Trade Bond A	152.5	0.3
Angel Trade Bond B	103	-1.4
Angel Trade Bond C	58.5	3.5
Angel Trade Warrant 2	0	0
Apcon	1098	0
Apcon warrant 1	359	0
Applicom	3270	-3.4
Aracell Warrant 2	536	2.2
Arad	2100	0
Arad Towels	917	0
Arazim	74	0
Arazim Bond 1	235	0
Argaman	251	-0.4
Arieden	1090	0
Arpal	417	-1.9
Aryt	152.5	-5.8
Ashkelon Plywood	661	0
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 1	239	0
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 2	120	0
Ashtad	388	-0.3
Ashtad Bond A	148.5	0
Ashot	338	0
Ashot Bond A	169.5	0.3
Ashpara	97	-2.5
Ashtrom Bond 1	169.5	0.3
Ashtrom Bond 2	153	0
Ashtrom Ind.	530	-7.2
Ashtrom Prop.	225	-0.4
Astrom P Bond 1	88.5	0
Astrom p warrant a	30	0
Astrum Bond C	93.8	-0.2
Astrum Warrant 2	33.3	0
Atlion	77	0
Atmor	2510	0
ATX	199	0.5
ATX Bond A	149	0
Atzmon	238	0.4
Aura	5140	1.9
Avarot	355	0
Avarot Bond A	155	0
Averbuch Formica	696	-0.4
Aviv	420	-0.9
Aviv Bond 1	148	0.3
Aviv Bond 2	86.5	0
Avner	23	9.5
Avrot Bond 2	86.5	0
Avrot Warrant 2	56.9	0
Ayalon	512	-1.9
Azimuth	460	1.1
Azorim Properties Bond 3	168	-5.1
Azorim Warrant 13	869	-4.3
Azorim Warrant 5	102	0
Azorim Warrant A	938	1.7
Azorim Warrant B	870	0
Badash Bond 1	43.5	-2
Bafati	385	0
Balentine 1	214	0
Balentine Bond A	123	-0.4
Balentine Warrant 2	5.5	0
Baron	2910	0
Bama'asaf	102	0
Bama'asaf Bond A	139	0.7
Bar	337	0
Bar Bond A	113	0.9
Barad	287	0
Bazanowitz	850	0
Barkan	819	0
Bersol	108.5	-3.2
Bertal	211	0.5
Baumel Moshe	163.5	0
BaySide Bond 2	88.5	0.3
BaySide Warrant D	2100	0
Beit Shemesh	1700	0
Belmon	316	1.9
Ben Yakar Bond A	183.5	0.6
Ben Yakar Bond B	89.5	0
Ben Yakar Gat	3725	-0.5
Ben Yakar Warrant 2	0	0
Berman	226	-0.4
Bezek Bond 3	121.5	-1.2
Bezek Bond 4	2060	-10.2
Bezek Warrant 3	556	-2.7
Bezek Warrant Bond 3	306	-4.9
Bio	1710	-0
Bio Bond A	169.5	0
Binar	623	0
Bny	278	0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Bolos Bond B	78.5	-2.5
bolos gad warrant 1	42.3	0
Bonei Tichon	551	0
Bonjour	490	-2
Boulous Brothers	160	0.6
Boulous Brothers Bond 1	240	0
Boulous GD Bond A	125	0
Brand	87	0.5
Bril	68	-0.7
Brok Side	34.4	0
Brosh	110	0
Building Bank	2033	7
Building Resou.	3615	0
C Holdings	560	0
C Holdings Bond 5	88.5	-6.4
C Holdings Warrant 3	8	0
Caesarea 1	4685	-10
Caniel	3550	-2.5
Capital	800	-5
Capital Bond A	114	-0.1
Caprice	324	0.6
Cargal	880	-14.8
Carmel	525	3
Carmiel	586	-0.7
Castro	550	0
Catalena 1	333	-3.5
CDI	223	0
Cemantecal Bond A	71	-0.7
Cementcal	410	-8
Centra	165	-2.1
Centre Bond 1	118.5	-0.4
Cham	580	0
Chayun Computers	160	-4.8
Chemipal	472	0.2
Chim-Nir	474	-6.8
CI Systems	195.5	0
Cldab	170.5	0
Clal Computers	11280	-0.8
Clal Industries Bond	0	0
Clal Israel 5	503	0
Clal Retail	77372	1.8
Cohen Beni	152	-4.4
Cohen Dev.	270	4.1
Cohen MM	182.5	-2.1
Cold Storage 1	1536	0
Cold Storage 5	7670	0
Cold Storage and Supply Bond 1	248	0
Compl	228	1.8
Compl Warrant 1	18	0
Compulite	168	-0.3
Comtech	369	0
Cbratrans	899	0
Cortal	1025	3.7
Contractors	16812	0
Coral Beach	808	0
Credit Line	3.8	-9.5
Credit Lines Bond A	35.9	-1.4
Cyclone 1	2410	5.5
Cyclone Bond 1	246	0.4
Cyclone Bond 2	150	0.3
Dalron	1519	0
Dalron Bond 1	246	0
Dalin	1.7	0
Dan Rent-A-Car	790	-2.6
Dan Rent-A-Car Bond A	155.1	-1.6
Danbar 1	5000	0
Danbar 5	20500	-3.4
Danbar Bond A	263	0
Danbar Resources	7050	0
Danbar Resources Bond B	164.8	0
Danbar Tech.	6400	0
Danbar Technologies Bond A	145.1	-2.7
Danel	71	7.6
Danel Bond A	85.5	0
Danel Personnel	2420	0
Danel Warrant 2	450	-22.2
Dankner Bond 1	210	-0.5
Dankner Bond 2	133.1	0
Dankner Bond 3	91.2	-0.4
Dankner Warrant C	480	0
Danly	626	0
Darad	110.5	0
DARBAN BOND 2	84.9	1.3
Darban Bond A	242	9.1
DARBAN W2	187.2	10.8
Darban Warrant 3	160.7	0.4
Darea	137.5	0
Darton	170	0
Dash investment	1030	-0.1
Data	661	0
Decision Systems	530	0
Degem Systems	570	0.2
Delek Drillings	9	13.9
Delek Oil	1332	0
Delta 1	3450	-0.3
Delta 3	10200	-5
Destiny	1390	0
Digel	124.5	-2
Direm1	1519	1.3
Dolev	387	-0.3
Dolev Bond A	134.5	0
Dolev warrant 1	49.9	-4.2
Domicar	442	0
Domicar Bond	150.5	-0.7
Dor Berger	489	5.5
Dor Chim	383	0
Dorc w1	105	0
Dorea	57	0
Dorl c1	95	-0.1
Dori Engineering	470	0
Dori Engineering Bond A	139.5	0.4
Dovrat Bond A	135.8	0.2
Dovrat Shrem	1613	-8.5
Dovrat Shrem Warrant 3	68	1.5
DSI	1450	-2.1
Dubek M	1.9	-5
Dubek S	2.1	5
Dunitz	313	0
DYG Industries	440	0
E & M Computing	1240	-3.1
Edgar Albani	85.5	0
Edgar Industries	199	-0.5
Edgar Inv. Bond C	86	0
Edgar Inv. Warrant 5	29	3.8
Effar Bond A	98	0
Ebl	188	0
Eilam	286	0.3
El Bad	1930	-2.1
El Carit	732	0
El Carit Bond 1	152	0
Elad	586	0.2
Elad Bond A	168.5	0
Elad Bond B	135	0
Elad c3	68	0.8
Elad w5	48.5	-4.9
Elbit Computers Bond B	122.1	0
Elbit Computers Warrant 2	876	-5.3
Eldan Tech.	188	-0.5
Electronics Line	471	1.7
Elgar	5026	0
Elishav	403	0
Eltech Ind.	826	-5.3
Elkam	330	5.8
Ella	437	0
Ella Bond A	137	0
Elran	3870	0
Elron Warrant 2	2675	0.8
Emek	141	8.5
Emyle	800	0
Engel Const.	730	-2.8
ESE	2430	-0.8
Eshed Robotech	210	-0.5
Even	383	0
Evergreen	3440	0
Eurois Warrant 1	1600	0
Excelence	1976	-0.5
Export Inv.	800	-1.4
Extra	123.5	-0.4
Feldman	175	0
Feldman Bond A	145	-3.4
Feldman Ind.	316	7.8
Feldman Warrant 3	16	0
Fertilisers 1	125	0
Feuchtwanger 1	11800	0
Feuchtwanger 5	55800	0.2
Fidelit	2618	0
Five J Jewelers	277	0
Five J Jewelers Bond 2	125.5	0
Formica Source	191	0
Frutarom	365	1.4
Gahelet	19490	-0.6
Galcom	217	0
Galtan	1205	0
Gama	211	0.5
Gamatronic	619	0
Gambit	1720	10
Gan ShmoelBond A	138.7	1.5
Gan ShmoelWarrant 3	825	3.6
Gan Shmuel	1878	1.8
Genei Hadar	372	0
Gap Development	109	3.3
Gap Holdings	292	0.9
Gap Warrant 2	13	23.1
Gazit	631	0
Gazit Bond B	148	0
Gazit Bond C	118	-0.4
Gibor Bond 1	85	0
Gibor Bond A	82	0
Gibor Sabrina	62	0
Gibor Sport	790	0
Gibor Warrant 2	116.9	0
Gilboa	91	0
Gilo	139.5	0
Gittek	1726	0
Givot Olam Oil	84.1	-9.4
Glob Rit	723	0.4
Golan	542	0.2
Gold	444	0
Golden House	351	0
Golden House Bond 1	248	0
Golex	160.5	2.9
Granit Bond	144.5	0
Granit Bond 2	147.2	-0.3
Green Software	715	-1.5
Greenberg	1390	-5.4
H. Electronics	67.5	0
H. Mer	1028	1.8
Habas	2667	0
Habas Bond 1	126	0
Hadar 1	24080	-3.3
Hadar 5	72388	0
Hadar Ins. 1	930	-0.4
Hadar Ins. 5	3850	-0.5
Hadarim Bond1.	113.6	-0.4
Hadarim Warrant1	1600	0
Hagai	450	-0.4
Hagai Bond B	146	0
Hamalor	383	0
Hanal	5.9	0
Harel Bond A	548	0
Hasin Esh	685	0.4
Hason	193	0
Hatehol 1	265	0
Hatehol Bond A	136	0
Hayal	1539	0
Hayal Bond1	350	0
Hayal Bond2	220	0
Hayal Warrant 1	88.8	0
Hed Arzi Music	412	0
Hiron 1	10340	0
Hiron 5	44700	0
HL Service Bond 2	180.5	0
HL Service Bond 3	142.5	0
HL Services	1811	-0.5
Hod	140.5	0
Hof	604	0
Holit	126.5	-10
Home Center	7450	0
Hydrolica	149	7.6
IES Industries	701	0
IES Warrant 1	134	-0.4
Ilan Gat	120.5	-2.8
Ilan Gat Bond A	141.5	0
ILDC Bond 6	260	-0.4
ILDC Hotels	302	-1
ILDC Hotels Bond 1	164.5	0
ILDC Hotels Warrant 2	89	0
ILDC Insurance	497	10
ILDC Insurance Bond A	130.5	0.4
Imco	1155	1
Ind Bld Warrant 3	58.5	-2.6
Ind Bldgs R1	30	0
Ind.Dev.Bank C	292	0
Ind.Dev.Bank CC	2870	1
Ind.Dev.Bank CC 1	2830	0
Ind.Dev.Bank Pref	1870	2.4
Independence Mort	97500	0
Intercosma	782	0
Intergamma 1	3600	0
Intergamma 5	12450	1
Iscal	1890	-5.8
Ispro	4000	-0.8
Isracolor	494	-0.2
Israel Corp. 5	118500	-1.2
Israel Lighterage Bond 3	133.6	-0.3
Israel Wire & Cables Bond C	177.2	-0.1
Isralom	1191	0
Isralom Bond B	257	0
Isralom Bond C	85	0
Israroco	3	-3.3
Isras 1	7200	0
Isras 5	30700	0
Isras Bond A	245	0
ISTA LINES	1994	-7.8
Itay	2380	0
Itay Bond 1	65.8	0.5
Itay Warrant 1	474	0
Itay Warrant 2	10	0
Jalora Bond A	180	0
Jaysour	160	0
Jaysour Bond A	97.5	-1.5
JEC Bond B	92.1	-0.1
Jerusalem Mort	217	-3.7
Jerusalem Mortgage Bond 15	163.2	0
Jeunesse	30.2	0
JOEL	106	0.9
JOEL Bond 1A	225	0
JOEL Bond 2	119.5	-0.8
JOEL Bond A	226	0
JOEL Warrant 3	1.5	0
Kadmani	168.5	-0.9
Kadouri	356	-1.9
kalrice bond b	82	0
kalrice warrant 1	72.5	0
Kalrit	1340	0
Kalkalit Bond A	98.5	2.8
Kalkalit warrant 2	360	-0.8
Kamour	543	-3.1
Kassour Bond G	129.1	0
Kamsept	1220	-4.1
Kanal Warrant G	1	0
Kanicol	35.8	-10.1
Kanicol Bond A	45.6	-2.1
Kardan 1	457	0
Kardan 5	2270	-0.4
Katz	126	0
Katz Bond A	64	0
Kedem Chemicals	3930	0
Kedem Chemicals Bond 2	233	0
Kenilex	338	0
Kesher	779	0
Kesher Bond A	147	0.3
Keter	709	0
Kind	24.7	0
Kind Bond A	26.6	0
King	294	0
Kinneret	215	-0.5
Klach Kinr	167	0
Kishrei Teufa	1190	0
Kital	435	0
Kital Bond A	151.5	0
Kital Bond A	116	0
Kital Warrant 1	0	0
Kill Ind. 5	7300	0
Koor Bond 5	166.6	0.3
Kopel	208	-0.5
Kopel Bond 1	225	-7.4
La Nationale Bond A	147.1	0
La Nationale Pref	98	0
Lachish	3213	0
Lamont	881	0
Lapidot Oil Exploration	1.3	0
Lapidot Oil Explorers	72	-1.4
Lasers	425	0
Lavlav	550	0
Laznick Bldg	453	0
Laznick Comm Ctrs	123.5	0
Laznick Commercial Centres Bond1	116.5	0
Laznick Ind Bldgs	311	0
Laznick Industrial Bldgs. Bond A	138	0.4
Leader Warrant B	35	0
Lego	450	0
Leumi R4	205	1.5
Leventhal	404	2
Levi	734	0
Levi Bond A	134	0
Levi Bond B	81	0
Levi Warrant 2	105	0
Levinstain Bond A	98	0
Levinstain Warrant 2	810	2.5
Levinstein	1580	0
Liber	376	-4.1
Lidan	1400	-3.5
Lifshir 1	175	8.6
Lifshir 5	701	-4.7
Ligad	723	0.3
Ligad Bond 1	147.5	0
Lighterage 1	525	0
LIMS	269	0
Lipman	2910	-4.1
Lipski	2590	0
Lipski Bond A	165.5	0
Liraz Bond A	182	-1.9
Lodan	170	0
Lodzia 1	1787	0
Lodzia 4	6264	0
Luhot Galil	36	-10
Luhot Galil Bond 1	142	-0.4
Lumir	3321	0
Ma'ariv	3070	2.9
Ma'ariv Bond A	137	-1.8
Maabarot	1385	-4
Macpell	1306	8
Macpell Bond A	133.6	0.4
Macpell Bond B	113	0
Macpell Bond C	75.9	-2.8
Macpell Warrant 3	103	-22.3
Mafil	805	0.6
Magam	160.5	-2.1
Magam Bond A	166.5	0
Magam Bond B	121	0
Magav	241	-7.3
Magma	53	0
Magor 1	2350	0
Magor 5	11000	0
Magor hldgs. Bond B	80	0
Magor hldgs. Warrant 2	700	0
Malal	348	-2.3
Mali	48.2	-6.9
Malibu 1	1235	0
Malibu 5	5700	-2.3
Malibu Bond B	176	0
Malta	777	0
Man	115	0
Man Bond A	203	0
Manbar	33.3	1.2
Marathon	106	-2.8
Marathon Insured	105.1	-0.9
Mario Laznick Constr. Bond 1	169	2.7
Mario Laznick Constr. Bond 2	140	0
Maritime Bank	1585	-0.9
Maritime Bank Bond A	199.5	-0.2
Maritime Bank Bond B	138	0
Mashav	873	0
Mashbir	754	-0.3
Mashov	473	-4.2
Mashov	157.5	0
Mashov Marketing Warrant 1	0	0
Matam	1373	-3.5
Matav Warrant 1	528	2.7
Maxima 1	371	-0.3
Maxima 5	1610	0
Mazpak	664	0
Med. Hotels	38.5	-2.2
Meditechnica	760	0
Meditechnica Bond A	130.5	0
Meditechnica Bond B	75.5	-0.7
Meditechnica Warrant 2	165	-3.6
Mediterranean Hotels Bond A	53.5	-1.8
Megason	57.5	0
Meimad	419	0
Meir Ezra	2470	-2.4
Meir Ezra Bond B	250	0
Melet	307	0
Melisseron Bond B	88.5	0
Melisseron Warrant 3	49.8	0
Mendelson	232	0.4
Menofim	39.4	5.9
Menorah Ins. 5	8000	0
Mercazit	720	0
Mercazit Warrant 2	0	0
Merhav	180	-6.7
Meytavit	450	0
Middle East Tube	375	-0.3
Middle East Tube Bond A	104.8	0
Middle East Tube Warrant 2	22	0
Milmor Bond A	144.2	0
Milomer Bond B	72.5	0.7
Milomer Warrant 2	205	0
Mimtar	140.5	3.3
Mini Line	582	0.2
Mirav	15180	-0.7
Mirage	230	1.7
Mirage Bond A	128	0
Mirage Warrant 1	26	-7.7
Miromit	50	0
Mishnael	19	0
Mishnael Bond B	58	0
Mishor Bond 2	142.5	0.4
Mishor Hahof	359	-0.6
Miterani	132.5	5.2
Mivtach Shamir	2910	-3.1
Mivtach Shamir	1320	0
MM Engineering	137.5	4.2
MM Engineering Bond A	78.5	0
Modgal	750	0
Mod'in	1.3	8.3
Moffet	220	-2.3
Moffet Convertible Bond AAA	310	5.5
Molen	701	0
More Plastic Ind.	418	0
Moshkovitz	164.5	-0.3
MTI Computers	490	0
Mul-T-Lock	948	11.5
Mutz Santer	223	0
Nachshon Fund	54.5	-0.7
Naphtha	41.5	-1.7
Naphtha Oil Exp.	23.1	0.9
Natour	863	6.1
NATSVA BOND A	96.9	0
Navigator	356	0
Navigator Property	648	0.2
Nechushtan Bond B	70	0
Nechushtan Prop.	185	5.1
Nechushtan Properties Bond A	123.5	0.4
Nechushtan Warrant 1	25.5	0
Negev Ceramics	164.5	0
Nehushtan 1	925	2
Nehushtan 5	4463	0
Neot Aviv	7230	-0.2
Nesco	499	2
Neve Arbel	86.5	0
Nevim Hotels	379	-0.5
Neviot	1023	0
Nia	285	-0.3
Nikov	1200	-1.7
Nisco	2630	4.6
Nissan	208	2
NMC	313	-0.6
Noga	1670	-1.8
Noga Insorens	116	0
Nordan	11	0
Nordan Tech.	402	-2.9
Norlok	572	0
Norlok Bond A	142	0
Nur	63	0
NYP	887	1
Oceana	299	0
Ocif Bond A	177	0
Ocif Bond B	0	0
Ocif Bond C	83	0
Ocif Warrant 2	1102	0
Octopa	539	0
Ofek	203	0.5
Ofer Bro	6287	-0.8
Ofis	1040	0
Ogdan	51	0
Ohaliav	517	0
Oil Fields	1.2	0
Olo-Dok	260	0
Omni	279	0
Omnitech	232	0
Ophir	450	0
Oppenheimer	88	0
Optima	113	1.8
Orasys	3641	-4.3
Orazit	355	0
Orazit Bond A	156.5	0
Orda	3900	-1.5
Orda Bond 1	176.5	0
Orev	787	2.5
Oriel	138	0
Orlas	439	0
Orlas Bond A	88	0
Orlas Warrant 2	73	3.8
Ormat Industries Bond D	118	0
Ormat Industries Warrant 5	190	4.2
Ortal	398	0.5
Otzar Hashiton	25000	1.2
Oz	230	0
Oz abda	440	0
Packer Steel	5610	0
Pallough	643	2.8
Parna	797	-0.5
Pamas	2840	4.6
Pan Dor	253	0
Pardes	980	0
Pardes Bond A	71.5	0.7
Passport	1959	-4
Paz Chen	394	0
PCB	1665	-4.5
Pdan Investment	62	0
Pereg	105	8.2
Penclase	827	-5.2
Phoenix Ins. 5	22800	0
Pica Plast	420	-4.8
Pirros	133	0
Pirros Bond A	138	0
Pelat	292	0
Plason bond a	98.5	0
Plason warrant 1	510	-1.2
Plasson	4200	-0.7
Plasto Sac	808	0
Plasto Sheck Bond A	84.5	-1.2
Plasto Sheck Warrant 2	105	-19
Poalim Inv. Bond B	88	0
Poalim Inv. Warrant 3	2310	-45.9
Poalim Investments Bond A	131	0
Poalim Warrant 3	640	1.4
Point of Sale	3290	-0.6
Polak	432	0
Polgat A	248	0
Polgat B 4	675	0
Polgat Bond B	165.9	0
Polygon	244	0
Polygon Bond 2	215	0
Poraz	280	0
Pori	118.5	0
Poseidon	133	0.4
Pri Haemek	21.1	5.5
Pri Haemek Bond A	43.4	-0.5
Pritzker	202	0
Pritzker Bond A	144.5	0
Profit	324	0.6
Profit Bond A	123.5	0.4
Python	700	13.4
Quality Cap Mkts	579	0
Rabintex	216	0
Ram Zur	78.5	0
Ramgor 1	299	-0.3
Ramgor 4	687	0
Rapak	2700	-3.3
Rapak Bond A	149.1	-0.2
Rassco	1060	0
Ratio	1	0
Rav Car	122.5	-2
Ravad	175	-2.2
RDC	1200	1.6
RDC Bond A	138	0
Red Sea Hotels	760	-5
Regency	85.5	6.2
Regency Bond 1	115	0
Regent	365	-0.5
Regent Bond A	140.5	0
Relcah	357	-1.9
Reshef	47.8	0
Reshef Bond B	70	0
Rimoni	845	0
Rogosin	1340	-0.7
Rogozin Bond A	79	0
Rogozin Warrant B	570	0
Romtech	370	-1.6
Rosebud	137.9	-0.1
Rosental	120.5	0
Rotem	415	0
Rotshtein	140	0
Rotshtein Bond A	127	-1
RSL	831	4
Sadot Mop Bond A	101	-0.5
Sahar Bond a	90.5	0
Sahar Dev.	2153	-10
Sahar Securities	798	-0.5
Sahar Warrant 1	243	0
Sanlacol	200	-5
Sano 1	1893	0
Sano 5	9100	-1.1
Scopa	1325	0.3
Scope Bond A	86.5	0
Scope Warrant 2	190	0
Sea Trade	502	-4.7
Secom	290	0.3
Securitas	911	1.4
Securitas Bond A	173	-0.3
Selen	1350	0
Seralon	410	0
Shaked	345	-3.1
Shamir	270	1.1
Shef	338	-0.3
Shekel	130.5	0
Shekel Bond A	139.5	0
Shekem	88.5	-0.5
Shekem Barkan Bond 4	150.6	-0.7
Shekem Bond 1	138.2	0.1
Shekem Warrant 1	1.3	0
Shelag	100	0
Shem Tov	304	-0.3
Shemen	13190	0
Shemen Bond A	159.8	0
Shiadot	75	0
Shlomo Angel	5651	0
Shmi c2	82	0
Shmi w2	250	0
Shmira	888	0
Shmira Bond A	143.5	-0.7
Shniv	625	-1
Shtang	139	0
Shulamit	238	0.4
Shulamit Bond A	140	0
Sinai	464	-1.1
Sinai Bond A	134.5	0.4
Solel Bone Bond A	105.3	-0.2
Soli BoneR1	680	-3.7
Solog	592	-2
Solomon	419	0
solomon bond a	71.5	0
solomon warrant 2	48.9	0
South Pipe	473	0
Spancril	241	-0.4
Spectronix 1	1378	-3
STG	1200	2
STG Bond A	100	-0.5
Sunfrost	3823	0
Suny Electronics	680	0
Synopsis	145	-3.4
Synopsis Bond A	127	-8.1
Syntec	450	0.9
Ta'al	265	0
Tachol Bond B	74	0.7
Tachol Warrant 3	52	0
Tadbik	331	0
Tadiran Appl	438	-0.7
Takam	1750	-1.7
Tal	155	3.2
Tal Bond A	75.9	0
TAP Bond 1	266	0
Tashloz bond a	93.8	0.3
Tashloz warrant 2	122	0
Tashluz	980	4.6
Tashluz Bond A	155	1.9
Tashluz Bond B	127.5	-0.8
Tashluz Prop.	759	0
Tashluz Warrant 2	10.3	0
Taste of Israel	181.5	0
TAT 1	430	-4.7
TAT 5	1403	-1.7
TAT Bond A	230	-5.2
Taya	656	-3
Taya Comm. 1	253	0
Team Computers	7000	0
Technoplast	460	-1.3
Technoplast Warrant 2	569	4.2
Tedea	2000	-1.5
Tedea Bond A	98.5	0
Tedea Warrant 1	333	0
Telahot Preferred	218000	0.5
Telen	2429	-2
Teldor	508	-6.9
Telsis	1750	0
Telsis Warrant 1	365	0.5
Tene	301	-5.3
Teuza	245	0
Teuza insured	250	1.2
Tibon Veal	188.5	-1
Tim Warrant 3	679	-1.5
Tiv	481	0.4
TMM	106.5	0.5
Tobias	2200	0
Tom	1082	0
Topline	496	-2
Topline Bond 2	156	-0.3
Topper	30.2	0
Topper Bond 1	63.5	0
Tosaf Compounds	355	0
Trade	375	0
Trade Bond A	189.5	0.5
Trend Line	1916	-0.5
Trocadero	51.5	2
TryBad	489	6.1
Tsabar	140	0
Tsarfati	541	0
Tsarfati Bond A	142.5	0
Tsur	160	-2.1
Tsur Bond A	299	-1.7
Tsur Bond B	104.2	-1.9
Tsur Bond C	95	0
Tsur Preferred	158	0
Tuttanauer	1220	0
Tzmicha	692	0
Tzmicha Bond A	164	0
Ulitski	58	0
Unibar 1	827	0
Unibar 5	860	-7.2
Unico	4155	-0.2
Unicorn 1	54	-2.7
Unicorn Bond 1	217	0
Undress	1510	0
United Steel	160	-0.6
United Steel Industries Bond 1	149	0
Univercol	398	0
Urdan Warrnt 5	178	0
Uropa Israel	3292	0
Vardinon	25600	2.7
Vardinon Bond A	154.5	0
Vardinon Convertible Bond AAA	138.1	-5.7
Videomatrix	37.4	0
Vilar	425	0
Vilar Bond 1	144	0
Vili Food	1650	0
Viliger Bond A	134	0
Vitalgo	307	2.3
Vitalgo Bond A	112.5	0
Vulcan	484	0
Vulcan Bond 1	228	3.2
Willi Bond A	87.4	0
Willi Warrant 1	423	-0.2
Woolfman 1	662	0
Woolfman 5	3007	-1.5
Woolfson	56084	-1.3
Ya'ana	655	3.3
Yaacobi	165	0
Yaad Bond A	165	0
Yaad Bond B	76	0.7
Yaad Industries	316	-0.6
Yaad Warrant 3	43.9	0
Yad	423	0
Yamit	196.5	-3.2
Yarden	534	-1.1
Yarden Bond 2	118.5	0
YDPZ	234	0.4
YDPZ Bond A	144.5	0
Yeda	1381	0
Yehuda	222	0
Yesh Gad	38.7	0
YLR	0	0
Yona Bond A	150.5	1.7
Yona Hotels	174.5	0
Yozma	437	0
Yeval	132.5	1.9
Zalrir	585	0
Zanas Holdings	54.5	0
Zarfati Bond B	83	0
Zarfati Warrant 2	52	19.3
Zal	98	0
Zehavi	195.5	0
Zeller Ablagon	474	-3.3
Zeller Ablagon Bond A	146	0
Zeller Ablagon Bond B	123.6	0
Zeller Inv. Bond A	59	0
Zeller Inv. Warrant 1	8	0
Zika 1	594	0
Zika 5	2552	2.2
Zikit 1	5413	0
Zikit 5	25149	0
Zinometal	677	-4.4
Zion Cables 1	294	-0.3
Zion Holdings	15463	0
Zion Textiles	105	0
Ziv	314	0
Zoher	272	0
Zoko	254	0

*In local currencies

Passersby aid victims seconds after an explosion at a Montreal homeless shelter yesterday. (AP)

2 dead, 30 injured in blast at Montreal homeless shelter

MONTREAL (Reuters) – Two people were killed and one was missing after an explosion tore through a homeless shelter in Montreal yesterday, injuring 30 others when the facade of a three-storey building collapsed.

Authorities said one of the blast victims died at the scene in the city's historic quarter and another succumbed in hospital, both of cardiac arrest.

A shelter volunteer was still missing in the rubble hours after the blast.

"Two people have died. We are still in shock," said Sister Nicole Fournier, one of the Catholic nuns who ran the shelter.

Shelter officials said the missing person might be a nun in her 70s, a member of the historic order of Grey Nuns who have provided meals and shelter for the homeless for 120 years.

"We think there is one person under the debris under the eastern side of the building," said fire department Captain Alain Michaud.

Seventeen of those injured were taken to nearby hospitals, where five were reported to be in serious condition with cuts, fractures and head injuries.

Passersby and police helped pull the injured from the collapsed portion of the building. Several victims were bleeding profusely and lay immobile, while others were staggering as they were led from the building.

Rescue teams combing the rubble were using a specially trained dog to search for the missing person. Motorists were asked to cut their vehicle engines in the area to help crews listen for any sounds coming from the building.

Crews from Gaz Metropolitain, the local utility, excavated a nearby street to reach conduits that enabled them to shut off gas to the building, which authorities said was in danger of completely collapsing.

Montreal's Catholic Archbishop Jean-Claude Turcotte was expected to visit the scene late yesterday.

Police said the powerful explosion, which occurred just after noon, was caused by a gas leak after a workman cut into a gas conduit.

The blast devastated the brick building at Accueil Bonneau, a soup kitchen staffed by nuns and volunteers who usually serve lunch to between 50 and 75 people.

"We smelled gas and thought maybe we should leave, then it exploded," one shelter worker told reporters.

"It went boom and that was it," said an elderly woman as she helped a shelter volunteer walk away from the scene.

"It was like a building demolition. It came down vertically," said eyewitness Louis Fournier.

Shelter spokeswoman Jacinthe Bouchard estimated that 35 people were inside the building when the blast occurred.

An official at Gaz Metropolitain said an employee of a private contracting firm was preparing the site to install a new gas meter when the leak occurred.

"Apparently he cut a pipe. There was a gas leak," said Stephane Bertrand. "He called Gaz Metropolitain and we got here as quickly as possible." The workman urged people inside the building to leave, Bertrand said.

The powerful blast blew bricks into the street and onto parked cars outside the shelter. A male cyclist was slightly injured as he pedalled by.

Ambulances and fire trucks raced to the scene and emergency workers tended to the injured as dust from the explosion and building collapse swirled in the air.

The shelter is located near the waterfront in Old Montreal, where the narrow, cobblestone streets are popular haunts with tourists and locals. Several tourist buses were parked nearby.

Montreal Mayor Pierre Bourque was in his office in city hall, about 300 yards (275 metres) from the shelter, when the explosion happened. Bourque told reporters the building had been renovated recently and was in good condition.

3 Texas men indicted for killing black man

JASPER, Texas (AP) – Three white men with alleged ties to supremacist groups were charged yesterday with murder in the death of a black man who was chained to a pickup truck and dragged three kilometers until he died.

James Byrd Jr., 49, whose torso was found without a head or right arm, met his death after he was seen walking home Saturday night, Jasper County District Attorney Guy James Gray said.

Preliminary autopsy results indicate Byrd died from multiple traumas to his head and body, injuries inflicted as he was yanked along behind the truck.

The head, neck, and right arm were found about a kilometer from the torso, Sheriff Billy Rowles said.

Charged with murder were Lawrence Russell Brewer, 31, of Sulphur Springs and Shawn Allen Berry and John William King, both 23 of Jasper.

The three had spent time in prison, where they apparently had ties to the Ku Klux Klan or the Aryan Nation, Rowles said.

Rowles said King and Brewer had been cellmates and were covered with tattoos indicating white supremacist beliefs. They apparently met up with Berry, who worked at a movie theater in Jasper, he said.

"All evidence shows it will be racially motivated," Rowles said.

Clinton on upcoming China trip:

Tiananmen Sq. fine as site for arrival ceremony

WASHINGTON (AP) – Preparing for a controversial trip to China, US President Bill Clinton said yesterday he will not object to arrival ceremonies at Tiananmen Square, the site of Beijing's 1989 crackdown on dissidents.

"They should be designing the terms of the arrival ceremony, not me," Clinton said. The House overwhelmingly urged the president last week to reconsider the appearance in the square; several human rights groups are protesting the Clinton visit.

In a news conference with South Korean President Kim Dae-jung, Clinton also said it is "a pretty routine decision" to allow a US-made satellite to be launched from a Chinese rocket.

Republican lawmakers are investigating whether donations from a Democratic head of a US aerospace company led to Clinton's decision to give the firm a waiver to launch its satellites in China.

The nation's space industries are launching a lobbying counteroffensive to try to persuade Congress not to restrict further satellite exports to China.

"We urge restraint by Congress until the results of its own reviews are complete," said Don Fuqua, president of the Aerospace Industries Association.

In particular, Fuqua and other industry officials want to try to sidetrack legislation that passed the House of Representatives late last month.

By near-unanimous margins, the House passed a series of amendments to a defense budget bill to keep technology and space information out of Chinese hands, including a ban on future launches of US-made communications satellites atop Chinese rockets.

Such a move also is expected to be made when the Senate takes up the defense bill, possibly later this week.

"Right now, our desire is that there not be any precipitous action taken," Fuqua, a former Florida Democratic congressman who was chairman of the House Science and Technology Committee, told a news conference on Monday.

Fuqua said that the House got caught in a "stampede mentality" in approving the ban as a result of the controversy over Clinton administration waivers allowing satellite exports to China – and congressional inquiries about whether a US aerospace company, the Loral Corp., jeopardized national security by sharing information with the Chinese.

"From all indications we have, there has not been a breach of security," Fuqua said.

The impact of such a ban on US companies involved in communications satellite technology "could be devastating," said Clayton Mowry, director of the Satellite Industry Association.

China has been launching satellites for 28 years, and has been launching communications satellites for other countries since 1987, he said.

Diana fund trustee quits

LONDON (AP) – A trustee of the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund resigned yesterday, saying the work had proved too demanding.

Freelance writer and broadcaster Vivienne Parry said when she was appointed, she was asked to give half a day a week to the fund, which raises money for the late princess's favorite causes. But the fund had required more time and energy than was originally planned, she said in a statement.

"I have managed to juggle my many other commitments ... in order to help the fund through a particularly difficult time, but now that it is in calmer waters and has a full-time chief executive starting shortly, I have asked Anthony Julius, chairman of the fund, to accept my resignation," she said.

TASE stocks have mixed trading day

Tel Aviv

Stocks on the TASE were mixed yesterday, with gains in Nice Systems Ltd. and Osem Investment Ltd. offsetting declines in insurance and chemicals companies.

Nice, a maker of voice and fax archiving equipment, rose 4.77 percent to NIS 13.8 as Solid ISG Research maintained its "strong buy" recommendation on the shares, and set a $52 to $58 price target on the company's American Depository Receipts, last quoted at $36.75.

A 1.65% rise in Osem Investment Ltd., a food manufacturer, balanced other shares' declines, and the Maof Index of 24 largest companies ended down 0.20% at 353.40.

Nice and Osem, like most listed Israeli companies "are well managed. The quality of reporting and accounting is high," said Arnon Rubinstein, equity strategist at Santander Investment in London. "You've got lots of problems in emerging markets, a lot of black holes. All of a sudden Israeli companies are attractive."

Osem shares rose 1.6% to NIS 19.1.

Bank shares rose for a third day, boosted by the Mizrahi movement's sale yesterday of 3.5% of United Mizrahi Bank Ltd., reflecting growing interest in Israeli banks.

Bank shares have risen in recent days after the government last week sold 35% of United Mizrahi, the country's fourth- largest bank, at a higher-than-expected price, in a sale that was 4.5 times subscribed and initially raised $162 million.

Bank Leumi's shares rose 0.76% to NIS 8.0, while Bank Hapoalim's shares rose 0.77% to NIS 11.3.

Among declining Maof stocks, Clal Insurance Enterprise Holdings Ltd., Israel's second largest insurer, fell 1.84% to NIS 42.7.

Asia

Japanese Stocks Rise on Falling Yen Japanese stocks rose as exporters such as Sony Corp. and Fuji Photo Film Co. capitalized on a weaker yen and boosted the Nikkei 225 index to its biggest one-day gain in a month.

Elsewhere, the Japanese currency's fall against the dollar sent most of the region's stocks tumbling. Benchmark indexes fell in Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Australia and South Korea.

The Nikkei rose 235.46 points, or 1.54%, to 15,530.17, its biggest one-day gain since May 11, led by Sony, Fuji and Pioneer Electronic Co. Exporters' profits rise as the dollars they earn overseas are worth more yen.

Hong Kong stocks fell in a storm-shortened session amid concern the yen's weakness would undermine efforts to stabilize regional economies and put pressure on China to devalue its currency.

In 90 minutes of trading, the benchmark Hang Seng Index fell 195.17, or 2.3%, to a five-month low of 8,391.46, led by Hysan Development Co. and other real estate companies.

South Korean stocks fell for the first time in four days on concern a weakening yen will crimp exports of Korean companies, slowing the country's recovery from its first recession since 1980.

Samsung Electronics Co., Daewoo Heavy Industries Co. and other big exporters paced the decline as the yen weakened to a 7- year low of 141.74 to the dollar today.

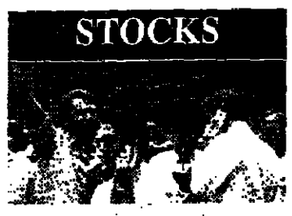
"Foreign investors continued to flee the Korean market, pulling down the index, as the yen's weakness will eventually cause the won to slide," said Lee Jae Young, a fund manager at Citizens Investment Trust Co.

A weaker won would inflate the cost of repaying the $67 billion of foreign currency debt owed by private and state- invested companies.

The benchmark Kospi index of 770 stocks fell 6.66, or 1.9%, to 339.22. Nearly two stocks fell for each that rose.

Singapore stocks fell for a fourth day, led by Cycle & Carriage Ltd. and Fraser & Neave Ltd., on concern profits will be hurt by a slowdown in the country's economy.

STOCKS



Maof 353.40 ▼ 0.20%

Dow Jones 9049 ▼ 0.23%

FTSE 5244.2 ▲ 0.46%

Nikkei 15530 ▲ 1.54%

Europe

UK stocks were mixed as British Petroleum Plc followed oil prices down, while optimism interest rates have peaked offset concern slower economic growth will crimp corporate profits.

Thistle Hotels Plc saw the largest rise on the exchange after it said it has been approached by three possible bidders and an offer for the company may be made in four to five weeks.

"The economy is losing a bit of steam, while wage growth is fairly robust," said Mark Gardner, a fund advisor to Julius Baer Investments Ltd., which has $41 billion worldwide. "There is a fear of stagflation." The benchmark FT-SE 100 Index fell 25.9 points, or 0.43%, to 6011.9, depressed by oil stocks amid doubts that efforts by oil-exporting countries to cut production will boost prices.

BP fell 19p to 908.5, while Shell Transport & Trading Co. dropped 7.75p to 443.5.

The broader FT-SE 250 Index rose 6.8 points to 5067.1, with Thistle Hotels leaping 39.5p to 240. The FT-SE 350 Index, a combination of the other two indexes, slid 9.6 points to 2926.2. (Bloomberg)

Wall Street

NEW YORK (AP) – Leading market indexes posted slim gains in New York yesterday, but most stocks fell in another hesitant session before today's congressional report by Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 19.68 points to 9,049.92 The loss halted a three-session, 265-point climb back toward May 13's record of 9,211.84.

Broader stock indexes rose, led by the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite, but declining issues outnumbered advancers overall.

With no major economic reports due until later in the week, trading was very cautious yesterday and Monday as investors grew leery of what Greenspan might say today.

Merck helped bolster the Dow for a second straight day, but American Express was the Dow's biggest decliner after gaining 4 1/2 points on Monday.

Overseas, Tokyo's Nikkei stock average rose 1.5 percent. Frankfurt's DAX index fell 0.2% and London's FT-SE 100 fell 0.3%.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow Jones industrial average fell 19.68 to 9,049.92.

The Standard and Poor's 500 rose 2.71 to 1,118.43, and the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index rose 12.99 to 1,800.76.

NYSE volume totaled 560.56 million shares as of 4 p.m. local time up from 533.68 million on Monday.

Pound up against dollar, deutsche mark

The British pound rose against the dollar and the deutsche mark after an increase in manufacturing output signaled UK growth remains healthy.

Manufacturing output rose 0.1 percent in April from March, better than forecasts for a 0.1% decline in a Bloomberg News poll. That compares with an 0.2% rise in March.

The report offered a degree of vindication to the Bank of England, which faced criticism after it raised its benchmark interest rate to 7.5% last week even as the economy showed signs of slowing. Stronger manufacturing also suggests the central bank need not cut rates so quickly.

"Last week's rate rise is giving considerable support to the pound" by boosting the money-market return on sterling deposits, said Neil MacKinnon, a director at the independent economic research firm Burke & MacKinnon. He expects the pound to continue trading above 2.90 marks in coming weeks.

The pound rose to $1.6365 from $1.6320 late yesterday. It rose as high as 2.9168 marks and was recently at 2.9116, after slumping to 2.8968 before the 9:30 a.m. report. That compares with 2.9050 marks on Monday.

The Bank of England raised rates in six quarter-point steps over the last 13 months, most recently last week, taking the benchmark rate to its highest level since Nov. 1992.

CURRENCIES

Dollar 3.667 ▲ 0.246%

Basket 3.916 ▲ 0.22%

Mark 2.063 ▲ 0.116%

Sterling 5.994 ▲ 0.356%

"U.K. rates are high and they're going to remain this high for at least another six months, so sterling will also remain overvalued," said Ian Williams, director of Guinness Mahon & Co. Capital Markets. "We could easily see the pound go back to 2.91 marks."

Adding to the evidence of continued U.K. growth, Great Portland Estates Plc, Britain's sixth-largest property company, said 1998 net asset value rose a better-than-expected 24% as a boom in London's West End raised the value of its office and retail properties.

West End retail prices have risen on the back of strong consumer spending and tourism, while office properties are benefiting from London's growth as a European financial center.

Great Portland has almost 75% of its portfolio in the West End district and in retail property.

To be sure, the outlook for the economy isn't one of runaway growth. Although April's gain meant manufacturing emerged from the recession it fell into during the first quarter, the Office for National Statistics said the underlying trend for manufacturers is still for little or no growth. In the year through April, manufacturing output fell 0.2%, after rising 0.4% in the year ended March.

Due to technical difficulties, the foreign stock data were unavailable.

Tel Aviv shares data supplied by Pacific Mediterranean Investments, Tel. 09-958-5873. All other data supplied by Commstock Trading Ltd., Tel. 02-624-4963. Due to technical failures data may be inaccurate. The Jerusalem Post will not be held responsible for the consequences of any transaction made on the basis of these data. Readers who wish to report missing or misquoted data should do so on postcards only, addressed to Jerusalem Post Business Desk, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000

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Crude oil falls on lower world demand

Energy

Crude oil fell more than 1 percent after the International Energy Agency cut its 1998 estimate for world demand at a time when traders are skeptical that producers can cut supply enough to end a world oil glut.

The Paris-based IEA said second-quarter oil use will average 73 million barrels a day, down 510,000 barrels a day from its estimate last month. For the year, daily demand will be 100,000 barrels less at 75 million, as Asia's economies weaken, IEA said.

"It looks like things are just getting worse in Asia," said Scott Ryll, a trader at GSC Energy Corp. in Atlanta. "I don't know who's going to buy oil right now. My customers, the end users, have bought about all they can. They've locked in prices as far as they can lock in."

In other markets, corn could be little changed while cotton rises. The Commodity Research Bureau index rose 0.36 to 213.69, while the energy-weighted Goldman Sachs Commodity Index lost 0.66 to 153.98.

Crude oil for July delivery fell as much as 23 cents to $14.32 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Prices are 23% lower than a year ago.

Precious Metals

Gold for August delivery rose above $300 an ounce for the first time in three weeks, rising as much as $2.60, or 0.9%, to $301.00 an ounce on the Comex division of the New York Mercantile Exchange. Speculation that the new European Central Bank, which holds its first official meeting today, may consider keeping a larger portion of its foreign exchange reserves in gold than forecast, is helping support gold prices.

COMMODITIES

Gold $297.85 ▲ 0.9%

Crude Oil $14.10 ▼ 0.12%

CRB 213.64 ▲ 0.31%

Some traders expect that the stake could be about 27.5%, at the higher end of estimates that have ranged from 5% to 30%, with the average forecast closer to 15% to 20%.

Copper for July delivery rose as much as 1.35 cents, or 1.8%, to 77.85 cents a pound on the Comex division of the New York Mercantile Exchange.

A truckers slowdown that has cut mine output at Chile's second-largest mine has offset an averted mine strike at another Chilean copper mine.

Others

Corn could remain close to an 11-month low after a government report confirmed expectations that farmers are on track to reap the second-largest crop in history.

After trading Monday, the US Department of Agriculture said 74% of corn fields stood in good or excellent condition as of Friday, compared with 76% a week earlier and in line with expectations. A year ago, only 65% of fields earned such high marks.

"We're looking at some big supplies," said Jason Roose, a broker at US Commodities Inc. in West Des Moines, Iowa. Still, with the crop not harvested until autumn, "we're a little cautious to be too bearish," Roose said. "The crop's not made yet."

Corn for December delivery, after the harvest, was little changed at $2.39 a bushel, up 0.25 cent, since the close of pit trading Monday on the Chicago Board of Trade.

(Bloomberg)

US bonds fall on Greenspan remarks

US bonds fell as traders braced for remarks from Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan today, and as companies readied some $11 billion of corporate bond sales in the days ahead.

"I don't see a big change in the market until at least tomorrow," said William Kirby, co-head of government bond trading at Prudential Securities Inc. "The risk is that Greenspan talks the market lower."

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond fell 9/32, or $2.81 per $1,000 bond, to 104 19/32, pushing its yield up 2 basis points to 5.80 percent. The two-year note's yield rose 1 basis point to 5.58%.

Traders were reluctant to drive yields lower before Greenspan's testimony to Congress's Joint Economic Committee today. Bonds may also come under pressure as U S West Inc., Simon DeBartolo Group Inc., and other companies sell at least $11 billion of bonds this week or next, traders said.

Investors will study Greenspan's remarks for evidence he expects Asia's economic crisis to slow US growth and stifle inflation, averting the need for the Fed to raise interest rates.

"He may mention that the economy is still strong but the Asian crisis is still going to take an effect," said Vincent Verterano, head of government bond trading at Nomura Securities International Inc. "I don't see why he'd want to upset the apple cart." The Fed may also stand pat with the view that any rate increase might worsen economic problems in Asia, Russia and elsewhere around the world, traders said.

BONDS

US 30-year T-bill yield

5.8 no change

The Fed last adjusted its target for overnight lending in March 1997, increasing it by 25 basis points to 5.5%. Fed policy-makers nine weeks ago adopted a bias toward raising rates, according to the minutes of the March Federal Open Market Committee meeting.

"It'll be interesting to see if Greenspan's primary focus is on the domestic economy or Asia," said Niru Devani, a fund manager who helps oversee about $57 billion of assets at Threadneedle Investment Managers. "That would give us a clue to his thinking on where rates might be headed."

Also weighing on bonds was a drop in the dollar against the Japanese yen, traders said. The US currency dropped from a seven-year high against the yen amid speculation finance officials from the Group of Seven industrialized nations may discuss measures to bolster the Japanese currency when they meet today.

That concern was sparked by comments from Japanese Vice Finance Minister Koji Tanami, who today said G-7 officials may exchange opinions.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (9.6.98)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	BANKNOTES Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.8806	3.9432	—	—	3.9169
U.S. dollar	3.6327	3.6913	3.57	3.75	3.6670
German mark	2.0449	2.0779	2.00	2.11	2.0636
Pound sterling	5.9367	6.0325	5.83	6.12	5.9944
French franc	0.6099	0.6198	0.59	0.63	0.6153
Japanese yen (100)	2.5905	2.6323	2.54	2.67	2.6132
Dutch florin	1.8143	1.8436	1.78	1.87	1.8307
Swiss franc	2.4632	2.5030	2.42	2.54	2.4861
Swedish krona	0.4541	0.4716	0.45	0.48	0.4681
Norwegian krone	0.4865	0.4944	0.47	0.51	0.4910
Danish krone	0.5369	0.5455	0.52	0.56	0.5418
Finnish mark	0.6729	0.6838	0.66	0.70	0.6792
Canadian dollar	2.4914	2.5316	2.44	2.57	2.5164
Australian dollar	2.1640	2.1990	2.12	2.23	2.1879
S. African rand	0.7036	0.7150	0.63	0.72	0.7104
Belgian franc (10)	0.9913	1.0073	0.97	1.03	1.0002
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9070	2.9539	2.85	3.00	2.9332
Italian lira (1000)	2.0758	2.1091	2.03	2.14	2.0945
Jordanian dinar	5.1093	5.1918	5.04	5.39	5.1521
Egyptian pound	1.0300	1.1200	1.03	1.12	1.1001
ECU	4.0287	4.0937	—	—	4.0658
Irish punt	5.1551	5.2383	5.06	5.32	5.2009
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4089	2.4478	2.36	2.49	2.4308

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 673-1475; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shualat, Shualat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: Jabotinsky, 125 Ibn Gvirol, 546-2040; Superpharm, 40 Einstein, 641-3730. Till 1 a.m. Wednesday: Jabotinsky, 125 Ibn Gvirol, 546-2040. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 641-3730; Superpharm London Ministore, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0115.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Kupat Holim Maccabi, 49 Hachayal, Ra'anana, 747-7733.
Netanya: Center Pharm, 1 King David, 884-1531.
Haifa: Habankim, 5 Habankim, 851-3005.
Krayot area: Kupat Holim Clalit Zevulun, 192 Derech Akko, Kiryat Bialik, 878-7818.
Herzliya: New Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (pediatrics); Shaare Zedek (ophthalmology); Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ENT) Misgav Ladach (obstetrics).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	100
FIRE	102
FIRST AID	101
Magen David Adom	

In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 8551333	Kfar Sava* 9902222
Ashkelon 6551332	Nahanya* 9912333
Beersheba* 6274767	Netanya* 8604444
Bet Shemesh 6523133	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Dan Region* 5793333	Rehovot* 9461333
Eilat* 6332444	Rishon* 9642333
Haifa* 8512233	Safed 6920333
Jerusalem* 6523133	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Karmiel* 9985444	Tiberias* 6792444

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Help line for English-speakers – Confidential hot-line counseling and referrals for all ages, all problems. MiLev Center for Crisis Counseling. (02) 654-1111, 1-800-654-111.
Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.
The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Eran – Emotional First Aid – 1201, also Jerusalem 02-561-0303 (Arabic: 563-0301); Tel Aviv 03-546-1111 (children/youth 546-0739); Rishon Lezion 03-956-8661/2; Haifa 04-867-2222 (Arabic: 867-2226); Beersheba 07-649-4333; Netanya 09-862-5110; Karmiel 04-988-8770 (Arabic: 958-3444); Kfar Sava 09-767-4555; Hadera 06-634-6789; Nazareth (Arabic: 06-645-4222).
Crisis Center for Religious Women 02-655-5744/5. 24-hour service, confidentiality guaranteed.
Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-651-4111, 03-546-1133, 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506.
Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.
Hadassah Medical Organization – Israel Cancer Association support service, 02-624-7678.
Flight arrivals – for information in English 03-972-3344.

WHERE TO GO

HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Brontman Reception Center, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 26, 28. For info, call (02) 588-2819.

HADASSAH. Visit the Hadassah installations, Chagall Windows. Tel. (02) 641-6333, (02) 677-6271.

TEL AVIV MUSEUM. "The Eyes of the Nation" - Visual Art in a Country Without Boundaries, Political aspects of Israeli art of the Seventies. "The Boundaries of Language" - Anatomy of language in the visual arts. "World in a Bottle" - Chinese Snuff Bottles and Paintings. Moshe Kupferman: Work Diary Screenprints 1996-1998. City Corner - From Orientalism through Bauhaus to Contemporary Architecture. Collections.

HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART. Chen Zhen - Jue Chang - Fifty Strokes to Each. Hours: Weekdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meyerhoff Art Education Center, Tel. (03) 691-9155/8.

English rugby rocked by sound of the '70s

London Calling

Mark Rivlin

There may be some football tournament about to start in France, but sporting life goes on elsewhere.

English rugby was at its lowest ebb on Sunday following the 76-0 mauling at the hands of Australia in Brisbane. There may have been extenuating circumstances – an English squad of 20 uncapped players to fill the gap left by the recriminations of a season full of wrangling – but to concede 11 tries unanswered in a Test is breaking new grounds in shame.

Coach Clive Woodward tried to be as upbeat as possible: "I was not expecting that. The game was gone be halftime, I think this was a freak result."

But the Australians, despite the win, are fuming. The two countries are scheduled to play a centenary Test in Sydney next year, but the Australian Rugby Union chief John O'Neill said the invitation would not be honored if England sent such a poor quality team. "We won't have them here under these conditions, we'd rather have a World team," O'Neill said.

Presumably, there would not be any England players on that team.

The problem of the under-strength England line-up was the pressure put on the country's top players by their clubs not to tour. The English union appears to be taking a back seat while the club-versus-country issue goes on.

The Sydney *Daily Telegraph* newspaper went one further than O'Neill saying: "The 57 old farts of Twickenham, as one former captain described them, were too spineless to insist English clubs release their best players."

This Saturday, England face New Zealand A with a certain Jonah Lomu using the game to test his fitness. Maybe the best option is for Woodward's sorry squad to test their skills against the New Zealand women's team.

IT was a great shame the first cricket Test between England and South Africa was ruined by rain with the final day poised for an exciting finish.

For England there were many positive aspects which came out of the match, with a notable minus – the injury to fast bowler Darren Gough, whose finger was broken by an Alan Donald ball which lifted while the Yorkshire bowler was batting on Friday.

Gough is a resilient character, but his patience will be tested to the full as this game marked his return to the Test arena after missing out on the recent West Indies tour with a back injury.

This time Gough will be out for three weeks. In his absence, Dominic Cork restored his status as a Test all-rounder with 36 in England's first innings and a superb 5-93 haul when the tourists batted. The old Cork hallmarks of face paint and wild gesticulations to the umpire appear to have been dropped from his repertoire. His captaincy of Derbyshire has molded him into a more sober character.

Man-of-the-match Michael Atherton also discovered a new lease of life after being demoted to the ranks of player, rather than captain.

Del Piero looks forward to comeback

SENLIS, France (AP) – Alessandro Del Piero, delighted to be off the injury list, said he does not feel disappointed over his expected exclusion from Italy's World Cup opener against Chile.

The young striker will be replaced by his former Juventus teammate Roberto Baggio in tomorrow's match at Bordeaux but is looking forward to regain his place on the starting 11 in the next game against Cameroon.

"I'm happy to be here, recovered, after fearing to miss the World Cup," Del Piero said at Italy's training camp yesterday.

Italy, a three-time World Champion, plays the African team on June 17 in its second match of Group B.

Considered the jewel of the Italian team and a key to the *Azzurri* fortunes in the World Cup, Del Piero healed a right thigh strain suffered in the Champions Cup final against Real Madrid but *still is questionable form following* 10 days of light training.

His exclusion from tomorrow's match with Chile had been suggested by coach Cesare Maldini on Sunday when he tested the offensive duo of Baggio and *Christian Vieri in a tuneup against* an amateur team.

Baggio, 31, defused controversy saying he traveled to France as Del Piero's substitute and that he was ready to sit on the bench once the "Golden Boy" is ruled fit.

Klinsmann not guaranteed but likely to start

Juergen Klinsmann is the captain of the German team with 103 caps. This doesn't guarantee him a place in the starting lineup, however, and Klinsmann is feeling the heat.

Perhaps never before has Germany come to a World Cup with four strikers who can all make an equal claim on a place in the starting 11.

"It's a healthy competition, we try *very hard in practice and we take it* very seriously," Klinsmann said. "We respect each other a lot, but all of us want to show that we belong."

Besides Klinsmann, there is Oliver Bierhoff, who topped the Italian Serie A with 27 goals. Ulf *Kirsten led the Bundesliga with 22,* followed by Olaf Marschall, who notched 21 in 24 league matches.

Compared to such feats, Klinsmann had a quiet season. He moved in mid-season from Sampdoria Genoa to his former *London club Tottenham, and was* kept on the sidelines with ankle and jaw injuries that also forced him to miss several national team games.

But the 33-year-old German star bounced back strongly in the late stage of the season, scoring four goals in one game to rescue Tottenham from relegation.

Dutch captain may miss 1st game after injuring ankle

Dutch captain Frank de Boer may miss the Netherlands' first World Cup qualifying match after injuring his ankle in training, Dutch coach Guus Hiddink said yesterday.

De Boer, 27, twisted his left ankle Monday. He stood on the sidelines during yesterday's practice, his injured ankle bandaged.

No decision will be made until Friday on whether De Boer can play in the Netherlands' opening World Cup Group E match Saturday against Belgium in St. Denis.

A left-footed defender, De Boer missed the Euro '96 tournament in England with a similar injury. He hobbled off the field at Amsterdam's Arena Stadium on Monday after falling during training.

Another injured Dutch player, Arsenal striker Dennis Bergkamp, went through light training yesterday as he fought to regain fitness in the wake of a six-week layoff caused by a hamstring injury.

Norway heavily favored vs. Morocco

Perfect preparations, no injuries and perhaps the most impressive warmup record of all World Cup teams.

Norway's "Drillos," fourth on FIFA's world rankings after winning their last three exhibitions over fellow Cup teams Denmark, Mexico and Saudi Arabia by a whopping combined score of 13-2, are heavily favored to win their first-ever meeting against Morocco on the opening day of the tournament today.

Norway scored only one goal in three games during a disappointing 1994 World Cup in the US. But it would be much more disappointing should they fail to make *the second round this time.*

Morocco's "Atlas Lions," also playing in the World Cup finals for the third time, were eliminated in the first round during the '94 Cup as well. But another early exit would not be a big surprise. The *Moroccans, coached by former* French manager Henri Michel, are clearly the underdogs in this group.

Scottish fans bought non-existent tickets

Scottish soccer fans who bought tickets from unofficial outlets for Scotland's World Cup opener against Brazil in Paris today may have paid for tickets which don't exist and could be refused entry to the match.

The Independent newspaper reported yesterday that hundreds of Scottish fans who had paid for package deals including World Cup tickets had paid for tickets which did not exist.

The official SFA allocation for the Scotland versus Brazil game was 5,000 of 80,000 seats in the stadium.

Leicestershire, Essex reach Benson & Hedges Cup final

LONDON (Reuters) – Darren Maddy cruised to his third century in the Benson and Hedges Cup this year and helped take Leicestershire to the last final at Lords on July 11 after beating Surrey yesterday.

Leicestershire, winners of the first Cup in 1972, will meet Essex to decide the tournament, which is being withdrawn to reduce the number of one-day county cricket matches.

Maddy, who finished 120 not out, and Ben Smith put on 172 *runs for the second wicket,* punishing Surrey for their decision to bowl in the blustering wind.

When Smith went for 89, Trinidad's Phil Simmons hit a fast 40 to push the total above 300.

England's one-day captain Adam Hollioake was the most expensive bowler for Surrey, his eight overs going for 76 runs.

And all-rounder Chris Lewis dealt a blow to his former team by dismissing Test batsmen Alec Stewart, Graham Thorpe and Mark Butcher in a spell of three for seven.

Surrey finished on 291 for eight. *Essex beat Yorkshire by 95 runs* and were all out for 163.

Venables back at Palace

LONDON (Reuters) – Former England coach Terry Venables returned as manager of his first club Crystal Palace yesterday and announced that his traveling days may be over.

Venables has become a leading international figure since leaving the south London club in 1981.

He has subsequently been in charge of Queen's Park Rangers, Barcelona, Tottenham Hotspur, England and Australia in the past 17 years but said he would be happy to stay at Selhurst Park for life to help Palace challenge Arsenal, Tottenham and Chelsea as the top team in the capital.

Venables, appointed by new Palace owner Mark Goldberg who completed a £22 million deal last week, said he was thrilled at returning to English club management after two years as national coach of Australia and chairman of Portsmouth.

The man who took Barcelona to the European Cup final and England to the European championship semifinals in 1996 said: "Palace are my first club and maybe my last. It is a fresh challenge and I am really looking forward to getting into the day-to-day job that I have so sorely missed.

"We realize how difficult it is to go up to the Premiership and stay there, but that is what we want to achieve."

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Last-minute instructions

Red Wings coach Scotty Bowman (r) eyes his charges intently. Detroit hosted the Washington Capitals last night in Game 1 *of the NHL finals.* (Reuters)

Bowman keeps Red Wings together

MY CALL

By LONNIE WHITE

If hockey experts are correct, the Detroit Red Wings should *not have too much trouble* putting away the Washington Capitals for their second consecutive Stanley Cup championship. Which would signal a milestone for Detroit's Scotty Bowman, who would tie Toe Blake *for most Stanley Cups* won by a coach with eight.

But even if this happens, Bowman will keep his mentor, Blake, on a higher level than himself based on the fact that Blake needed less time to reach his total while Bowman is in his 24th season.

"I was *in* Montreal coaching the juniors when (Blake) was coaching *the Canadiens and I* got to know him when he first started in 1955," said Bowman, the winningest coach in NHL history with 1,057 regular-season victories and 190 in the postseason.

"He coached 13 years in the league and won eight Stanley Cups. I don't know if anybody *can ever* equal that or even get close to it. So, I don't think *there is really that much com*parison, the fact that I coached in the league 20-something years and he coached 13 years. (The NHL) may have had only six teams with only two series (in the playoffs) when he was coaching but they had the best players in the world on six teams."

When Detroit won the title last season and Bowman took the time to skate around the ice holding the Stanley Cup, many *people felt that he* was ready to retire. Instead, Bowman returned and has the Red Wings back in their third championship series in four years.

With the same type of intensity that he had when he won his first Cup in 1973 while coaching the Canadiens, Bowman pushed the Red Wings hard this *season and has his team primed* to become the first back-to-back champion *since* the Pittsburgh Penguins in 1991-92.

"He's been consistent in terms of his approach and his desire to win," Detroit defenseman Larry Murphy said of Bowman. "He handled personnel throughout the year based on getting us ready to get back to the finals again."

Not only did Bowman have to keep together a team that lost the services of *popular defense*man Vladimir Konstantinov because of a tragic auto accident last summer, he had to deal with Sergei Fedorov's holdout and eventual return.

Bowman kept the Red Wings rolling with his usual control that kept his team ready for anything.

"The big thing with Scotty is as a coach he has got an entire team that believes in him and that trusts him and you know, we don't have a single guy that ever *sulks* or questions any of his moves,"

Detroit *winger* Brendan Shanahan said. "Sometimes he can do things that are unexplained and you might scratch your head, but we don't have *anyone* who takes that out on the ice with him.

"He throws *adversity* at you throughout the year and he challenges you. (The reason *why) he* might play you in different positions on a different line is that when you get to the playoffs ... and face intense scrutiny, you know that you haven't had a soft curb season."

That's why none of his players were shocked when, 20 minutes before *Game 6* in the Red Wings' Western Conference finals series against *the Dallas* Stars, Bowman made line changes for the entire team.

A tactic he might have learned from Blake, who kept Bowman on his toes.

"I think he was way ahead of *his time*," *Bowman* said of Blake. "I used to watch him in those days and even *though* we *didn't* have the statistics we have today, he always knew who was playing well. He was one of the first coaches in the league to match up against the opposition and he was a fierce competitor."

(Los Angeles Times)

HARD DRIVING – Casey Martin. (Reuters)

Martin qualifies for US Open

CINCINNATI (AP) – Casey Martin overcame a balky cart and a double bogey on the 36th hole – one he feared would be his last – before qualifying for the US Open in a two-hole playoff Monday.

Martin sank a 25-foot birdie putt in the rain to clinch the fifth and final qualifying spot at Clovernook Country Club. He had failed his three previous attempts to make the Open, which will be held at the Olympic Club in San Francisco *starting June 18.*

"I'm going to fly around the Open. I don't think I'll need a cart. I'll be so *pumped,*" *he said, moments after winning the five-player playoff.*

Until his winding putt found the middle of the cup on the par-4, 420-yard second hole, Martin figured this would wind up as a day he'd long regret.

Martin, who won a court order to ride a cart because of a circulation problem with his right leg, took a while to adjust to a newfangled one-person cart brought in for the event. It had a different braking system than a standard cart and quit on his second hole when he accidentally kicked the power switch.

He had to walk two holes before the cart was revived.

His ever-present limp *grew more pronounced during the last few holes* of his afternoon round, when he was trying to hold his position among the leaders. He became angry with himself after his double bogey on the par-4, 405-yard final hole.

His tee shot went behind a tree, his approach came up short and he three-putted, *falling to 2-under-par* 138. He *slammed* the door of the restroom in the clubhouse and uttered a profanity when he emerged, then went to sit in his car and cool off.

"On the last hole, I just hit six bad shots, took a double and was crushed," he said.

Martin got a second chance as four others finished at 138 – Eric Johnson, Chris Riley, Perry Moss and Ryan Howison.

Martin, Howison and Moss shot par *on the first playoff hole to stay* in contention. Martin then sank one of his most pressure-packed putts to win it in a steady rain.

"I'm just kind of stunned," said Martin, who showed little emotion when the putt fell. "I was so disappointed after I finished (the 36th hole) that I kind of *wrote it off. I'm shocked that I'm here.*" *He thought that* this qualifying attempt would end like the last three: falling in the final round. The dramatic finish Monday left him unsure how to react.

Though course officials had prepared for an influx of thousands of fans, a group of about 50 fans and reporters followed him around the course. There was one near-mishap when his green and gray cart hit a bump and nearly clipped a course official on one hole.

*Nearing the end of his afternoon round, a news helicopter noisily cir*cled for about two holes, drawing glares from golfers and fans. Martin waved at it, *hoping it* would go away.

He's become accustomed to attention since he sued the PGA for the right to ride a cart. He knows that won't change at the Open, where he plans to keep a low profile."I'm going to be the center of attention and I wish it weren't so," he said.

Braves rally in ninth to stun Red Sox

Marlins end skid with 17-inning win; McGwire cracks 29th

ATLANTA (AP) – The Atlanta Braves rallied for six runs in the ninth inning to stun the Boston Red Sox 7-6 *Monday night,* winning on Andruw Jones' one-out, run-scoring single.

Trailing 6-1, the Braves started their rally off closer Tom Gordon, who gave up RBI singles to Keith Lockhart and Chipper Jones. John Wasdin (3-3) *then* relieved and gave up a two-run double to Andres Galarraga *and a bloop sin*gle by Ryan Klesko that drove in the tying run.

After Javy Lopez bunted pinch-runner Gerald Williams to second, Andruw Jones singled to left on an 0-2 pitch, and a sliding Williams *beating Troy O'Leary's high* throw to the plate.

Astros 9, Tigers 5

Carl Everett hit a two-run double to cap a five-run ninth inning that lifted Houston to a road win.

Everett also homered for Houston, which is 3-1 in interleague play this season.

***Indians* 8, Pirates 0**

Jim Thome hit a three-run homer and drove *in four runs,* and Bartolo Colon pitched a four-hitter for his second shutout and fourth complete game as Cleveland won at home.

Kenny Lofton started a third-inning rally with a perfect bunt that *glanced off third* base, and Thome ended it with a 431-foot shot *off Chris Peters (1-4) into the* second deck in right to break a scoreless tie.

Royals 8, Brewers 7

Jose Offerman homered and hit his league-leading 7th triple as host Kansas City won an interleague game that hardly felt like one.

The Brewers, who switched from *the AL to the NL last November,* have been visiting Kansas City since 1970, and it was the 361st meeting between the two teams.

Mets 3, *Devil* Rays 0

Rick Reed took a perfect game into the seventh inning and finished with a three-hitter, and Mike Piazza homered to lead the Mets at Shea.

Cubs 8, Twins 1

Sammy Sosa tied a team record by homering in his *fifth* consecutive game and Jose Hernandez added a *two-run shot as* Chicago won its 10th straight.

The winning streak is the longest since 1970 for the Cubs, who are 14 games over .500 (38-24) for the first time since finishing the 1989 regular season 92-69.

Sosa's homer, a solo shot in the third, was his 20th of the season and gave *him 11 in his last 10* games. The other Cubs to homer in five straight games were Hack Wilson in 1928 and Ryne Sandberg in 1989.

White Sox 8, Cardinals 6

Mark McGwire hit his major *league-leading* 29th homer, but Jeff Abbott's three-run triple led *the host White Sox over St. Louis.*

McGwire, whose 13 homers in his last 17 games, raised his NL-leading RBI total to 73 with his two-run shot in the fourth.

His presence in the interleague game helped Chicago's sagging *home attendance. The* crowd of 23,087 marked only the third time *the* team *has drawn more* than 23,000 fans to Comiskey Park in 26 home dates.

Orioles 14, Phillies 8

Rafael Palmeiro went 3-for-5 with four RBIs, including a two-run homer, as visiting Baltimore outslugged the Phillies.

Rangers 3, Rockies 1

Domingo Cedeno homered and drove in all three of visiting Texas runs, and Aaron Sele became the majors' second nine-game winner.

Marlins 4, Blue Jays 3 (17)

Todd Zeile singled home the winning run to cap a bizarre 17th inning, and host Florida snapped an 11-game losing streak.

Toronto appeared to take a 4-3 lead in the 17th when Felipe Crespo scored from first on a two-out double by Carlos Delgado.

But the Marlins argued that Crespo had missed third base, and plate umpire Tom Hallion upheld the appeal and ruled him out, ending the inning.

TV replays showed that Crespo appeared to touch the inside of third base on his way to the plate.

Padres 4, Reds 2

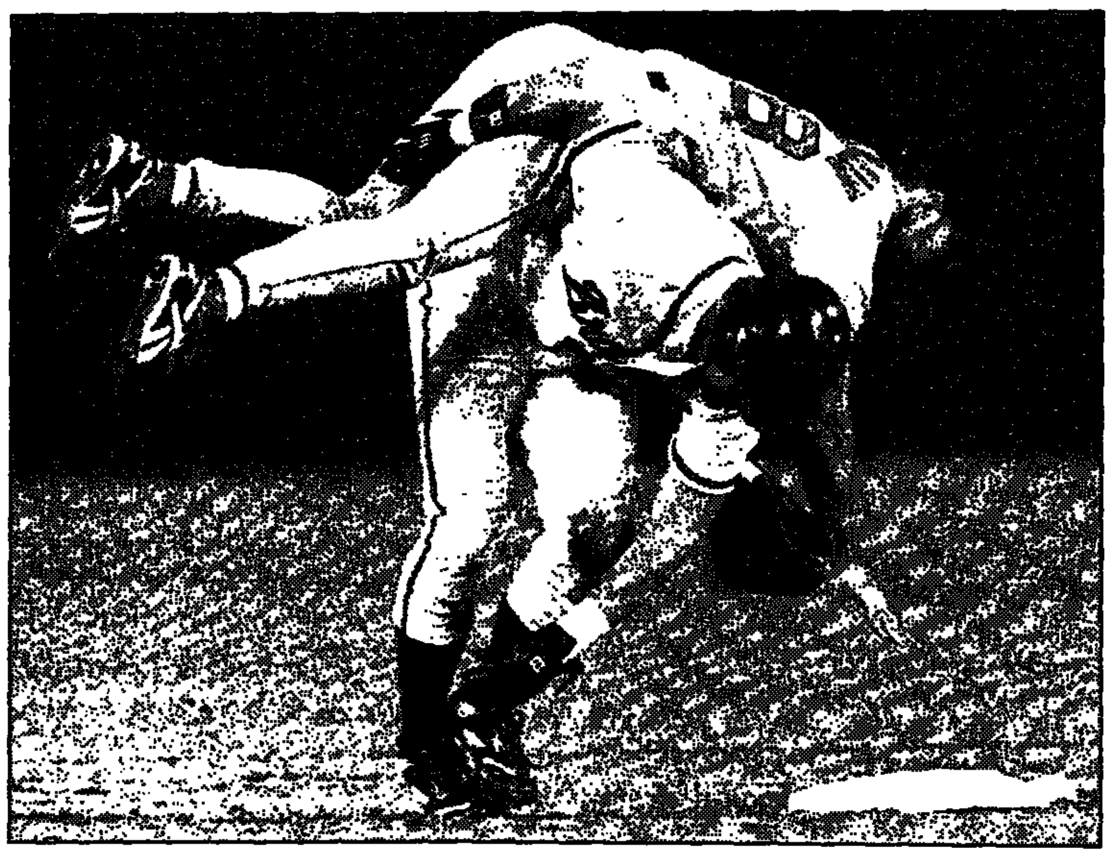
Joey Hamilton allowed two runs *in eight innings to break his* career-worst six-game losing streak.

Athletics 7, Dodgers 3

Blake Stein, making just his sixth big-league start, allowed five hits and struck out 10 in 8⅓ innings as Oakland won *on the road.*

Giants 4, Mariners 3

Danny Darwin kept the majors' best home run-hitting team idle and Rich Aurilia homered in his first at-bat against Randy Johnson as the Giants won their 10th straight, their longest winning streak since an 11-game run in 1991.



TURNING TWO – **Bosox 2B Mike Benjamin is upended by Braves Ryan Klesko who unsuccessfully tries to break up a double play.** (Reuters)

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	45	19	.703	—
New York	34	24	.586	8
Philadelphia	28	32	.467	15
Montreal	24	37	.393	19½
Florida	18	44	.290	26
Central Division				
Houston	38	24	.613	—
Chicago	33	24	.579	—
Pittsburgh	31	32	.492	7½
Milwaukee	29	31	.483	8
St. Louis	29	33	.468	9
Cincinnati	28	36	.438	11
West Division				
San Francisco	40	24	.625	—
San Diego	39	25	.609	1
Los Angeles	31	32	.492	8½
Colorado	26	38	.406	14
Arizona	20	43	.317	19½

American League

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	44	13	.772	—
Boston	35	26	.574	11
Toronto	31	32	.492	16
Baltimore	30	33	.476	17
Tampa Bay	26	36	.419	20½
Central Division				
Cleveland	38	24	.613	—
Minnesota	27	34	.443	10½
Chicago	25	36	.410	12½
Detroit	23	36	.390	13½
Kansas City	23	38	.377	14½
West Division				
Texas	38	24	.613	—
Anaheim	34	26	.567	3
Oakland	27	34	.443	10½
Seattle	27	36	.429	11½

MAJOR LEAGUE LEADERS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BATTING–IRodriguez, Texas, .374; BWilliams, New York, .346; Segui, Seattle, .344; TWalker, Minnesota, .341; O'Neill, New York, .330; DJeter, New York, .329; Brosius, New York, .328.

RUNS–Griffey Jr, Seattle, 55; DJeter, New York, 53; Thome, Cleveland, 52; Durham, Chicago, 51; Grieve, Oakland, 49; ARodriguez, Seattle, 47; TGoodwin, Texas, 47.

RBI–JuGonzalez, Texas, 77; Griffey Jr, Seattle, 57; Thome, Cleveland, 53; Easley, Detroit, 51; RPalmeiro, Baltimore, 49; ARodriguez, Seattle, 48; O'Neill, New York, 47.

HITS–IRodriguez, Texas, 85; McCracken, Tampa Bay, 80; MVaughn, Boston, 79; Erstad, Anaheim, 78; ARodriguez, Seattle, 78; Grieve, Oakland, 76; DJeter, New York, 76; Segui, Seattle, 76; JuGonzalez, Texas, 76; O'Neill, New York, 76.

HOME RUNS–Griffey Jr, Seattle, 24; ARodriguez, Seattle, 21; JuGonzalez, Texas, 19; MVaughn, Boston, 18; Easley, Detroit, 17; Canseco, Toronto, 17; Thome, Cleveland, 16; RPalmeiro, Baltimore, 16

STOLEN BASES–TGoodwin, Texas, 23; Henderson, Oakland, 23; Lofton, Cleveland, 19; BLHunter, Detroit, 18; Canseco, Toronto, 17; Knoblauch, New York, 16; Stewart, Toronto, 15.

PITCHING (8 Decisions)–DWells, New York, 8-1, .889, 4.25; Cone, New York, 8-1, .889, 4.97; WWilliams, Toronto, 7-2, .778, 2.97; Sele, Texas, 9-3, .750, 3.53; PMartinez, Boston, 6-2, .750, 3.11; Rogers, Oakland, 6-2, .750, 3.43; CFinley, Anaheim, 6-2, .750, 2.22.

STRIKEOUTS–RJohnson, Seattle, 115; PMartinez, Boston, 106; CFinley, Anaheim, 96; Clemens, Toronto, 87; Colon, Cleveland, 75; Erickson, Baltimore, 72; Sele, Texas, 71; Guzman, Toronto, 71.

SAVES–Gordon, Boston, 19; Percival, Anaheim, 17; Wetteland, Texas, 17; RaMyers, Toronto, 15; MJackson, Cleveland, 13; MRivera, New York, 12; RHernandez, Tampa Bay, 11; JMontgomery, Kansas City, 11; Aguilera, Minnesota, 11.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

BATTING–Olerud, New York, .354; MaGrace, Chicago, .352; BJordan, St. Louis, .348; Sosa, Chicago, .346; Gwynn, San Diego, .346; Bichette, Colorado, .341; Kendall, Pittsburgh, .340.

RUNS–ChJones, Atlanta, 54; Biggio, Houston, 54; Galarraga, Atlanta, 54; Glanville, Philadelphia, 53; McGwire, St. Louis, 50; Sosa, Chicago, 49; LWalker, Colorado, 46.

RBI–McGwire, St. Louis, 73; Galarraga, Atlanta, 62; Castilla, Colorado, 60; Sosa, Chicago, 56; Alou, Houston, 52; GVaughn, San Diego, 52; Brogna, Philadelphia, 51.

HITS–Bichette, Colorado, 89; Glanville, Philadelphia, 87; MaGrace, Chicago, 83; Sosa, Chicago, 81; ChJones, Atlanta, 79; Galarraga, Atlanta, 78; Biggio, Houston, 77.

HOME RUNS–McGwire, St. Louis, 29; Galarraga, Atlanta, 23; Castilla, Colorado, 22; GVaughn, San Diego, 21; Sosa, Chicago, 20; ChJones, Atlanta, 16; Mondesi, Los Angeles, 14; Bonds, San Francisco, 14.

STOLEN BASES–EcYoung, Los Angeles, 25; Biggio, Houston, 23; Womack, Pittsburgh, 21; Renteria, Florida, 18; Stynes, Cincinnati, 14; DeShields, St. Louis, 14; RWhite, Montreal, 13.

PITCHING (8 Decisions)–GMaddux, Atlanta, 9-2, .818, 1.69; Millwood, Atlanta, 8-2, .800, 4.07; Schmidt, Pittsburgh, 8-2, .800, 3.51; Glavine, Atlanta, 8-2, .800, 2.37; Lima, Houston, 7-2, .778, 2.99; Wood, Chicago, 6-2, .750, 2.79; Tapani, Chicago, 8-3, .727, 4.09

STRIKEOUTS–Schilling, Philadelphia, 134; Wood, Chicago, 94; Stottlemyre, St. Louis, 93; RMartinez, Los Angeles, 85; Reynolds, Houston, 82; KBrown, San Diego, 76; GMaddux, Atlanta, 76.

SAVES–Nen, San Francisco, 18; Hoffman, San Diego, 17; Shaw, Cincinnati, 17; Beck, Chicago, 16; BWagner, Houston, 15; Urbina, Montreal, 14; JFranco, New York, 13.

INTERLEAGUE

Pittsburgh 000 000 000–0 4 2
Cleveland 003 032 00x–8 15 0
Peters, Dessens (5), Christiansen (6), Ja.Martinez (7) and Kendall; Colon and S.Alomar. W–Colon, 5-4. L–Peters, 1-4. HR–Cleveland, Thome (16).

Tampa Bay 000 000 000–0 3 2
New York 020 010 00x–3 7 0
D.Springer, Aldred (6), Yan (8) and DiFelice; R.Reed and Piazza. W–R.Reed, 7-3. L–D.Springer, 2-10. HR–New York, Piazza (11).

Boston 010 130 002–6 12 0
Atlanta 100 000 006–7 11 1
Lowe, Mahay (7), Corsi (8), Gordon (9), Wasdin (9) and Varitek; Glavine, Cather (7), Embree (9) and J.Lopez. W–Embree, 1-0. L–Wasdin, 3-3.

Houston 100 200 105–9 14 0
Detroit 011 021 000–5 9 1
Bergman, Magnante (5), D.Henry (8), B.Wagner (9) and Ausmus; Greisinger, Brocail (7), To.Jones (9), Runyan (9) and Bako. W–D.Henry, 4-2. L–To.Jones, 0-2. HR–Houston, Everett (5).

Milwaukee 020 021 200–7 17 0
Kansas City 420 101 00x–8 10 1
Juden, D.Jones (7) and Hughes, Matheny (7); Rapp, J.Walker (6), Pichardo (7), Service (8), J.Montgomery (8) and Fasano. W–Rapp, 5-5. L–Juden, 5-5. Sv–J.Montgomery (11). HRs–Milwaukee, Burnitz (12). Kansas City, Offerman (3).

St. Louis 000 211 200–6 8 2
Chicago 111 050 00x–8 8 0
Petkovsek, Croushore (5), C.King (7) and Lampkin; Bere, Fordham (7), Foulke (7), Simas (8), Karchner (9) and O'Brien. W–Bere, 3-5. L–Petkovsek, 3-3. Sv–Karchner (6). HRs–St. Louis, McGwire (29), B.Jordan (10), Mabry (4).

Chicago 013 02 002–8 13 0
Minnesota 000 010 000–1 10 0
M.Clark, Pisciotta (9) and S.Martinez, Hawkins, Guardado (6), Naulty (7), Serafini (9) and Steinbach. W–M.Clark, 4-6. L–Hawkins, 3-6. HRs–Chicago, Sosa (20), J.Hernandez (8).

Baltimore 030 304 013–14 18 0
Philadelphia 120 400 100– 8 14 2
D.Johns, Rhodes (5), A.Benitez (7), Orosco (8) and Hoiles; Ml.Grace, Borland (5), Winston (6), Spradlin (6), Dodd (8) and Lieberthal. W–Rhodes, 3-2. L–Winston, 2-2. Sv–Orosco (4). HRs–Baltimore, R.Palmeiro (16), Carter (6), Surhoff (10). Philadelphia, S.Rolen (13).

Texas 000 010 101–3 8 0
Colorado 100 000 000–1 6 0
Sele, Wetteland (9) and I.Rodriguez; Astacio, Munoz (8), Leskanic (8) and Manwaring. W–Sele, 9-3. L–Astacio, 4-8. Sv–Wetteland (17). HR–Texas, Cedeno (2).

Toronto 000 000 030 000 000 00–3 13 0
Florida 300 000 000 000 000 01–4 14 1
(17 innings)
Clemens, Plesac (8), Quantrill (9), Risley (10), Person (12), Ra.Myers (14), Hanson (17) and K.L.Brown, Dalesandro (7); Meadows, F.Heredia (8), J.Powell (8), Darensbourg (10), Mantei (10), Alfonseca (12), Edmondson (15) and Zaun. W–Edmondson, 1-1. L–Hanson, 0-3.

Oakland 400 000 300–7 8 1
Los Angeles 000 010 002–3 5 1
Stein, Taylor (9) and Macfarlane; R.Martinez, McMichael (8), Guthrie (9) and C.Johnson, Prince (9). W–Stein, 2-3.
L–R.Martinez, 7-3. HRs–Oakland, Giambi (7). Los Angeles, Karros (4), Konerko (2).

Seattle 010 000 200–3 11 1
San Francisco 003 010 00x–4 8 1
R.Johnson, Timlin (8), Spoljaric (8) and D.Wilson; Darwin, S.Reed (7), R.Rodriguez (9) and B.Johnson, Mayne (9). W–Darwin 6-3. L–R.Johnson 5-5. Sv–R.Rodriguez (1). HR–San Francisco, Aurilia (5).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Cincinnati 100 010 000–2 8 0
San Diego 020 000 20x–4 6 0
Winchester, Sullivan (8), Graves (7) and Taubensee; J.Hamilton, Hoffman (9) and C.Hernandez. W–J.Hamilton, 4-7. L–Sullivan, 1-3. Sv–Hoffman (17).

CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Avner Biron leads the Israel Camerata Jerusalem in Psalms music by Handel and Vivaldi with soloists soprano Linda Perillo, countertenor Stephen Wallace, tenor Joseph Cornwell and bass Rudolf Piernay, as well as the Rheinische Kantorei. Tonight in Rehovot, Friday (2 p.m.), Saturday (9 p.m.) and Sunday (8:30 p.m. unless otherwise stated) at the Tel Aviv Museum and next Monday at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem (9 p.m.).

Tonight is your last chance to hear the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra perform Verdi's Simon *Boccanegra* in concert form at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv (8:30 p.m.) under the baton of Daniel Oren and with singers from all over the world.

Noam Sheriff leads the symphony Orchestra and chamber choir of the Tel Aviv Rubin Academy in music by Mozart and Mahler tonight (8:30) at the Noga Theater in Jaffa in a special concert for the LIBI fund for soldiers' welfare.

Soprano Linda Perillo sings Handel and Vivaldi tonight in Rehovot.

ENGLISH THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Blue Heart consists of two plays by UK playwright Caryl Churchill, both comedies with a deeply serious core. *Heart's Desire* is about what happens when a family awaits the return of their daughter after a number of years in Australia. *Blue Kettle* shows a con-man at work, convincing elderly women he's their long lost son. Both plays are directed by Max Stafford Clark, who has been called the finest director of new writing. Both plays are part of the Israel Festival. Tonight in Rebecca Crown at 9 p.m.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ THE WEDDING SINGER – Light as a marshmallow and about as nourishing, this is a silly but entertaining romantic comedy that stars Adam Sandler as a suburban crooner who makes a living serenading newlyweds at a local reception hall, and Drew Barrymore as a cute waitress engaged to marry a big lug of a junk-bond trader. Director Frank Coraci and screenwriter Tim Herlihy understand the trifling nature of their material and they do a good job of keeping things bubbly and proportional. Much of the humor here comes from the picture's comic-book approach to its time frame. The year is 1985, the clothes are tacky and everyone's hair looks awful. And though it is a bit disconcerting to see such recent fads already treated as the stuff of ancient history, the filmmakers' exaggerated approach to their setting feels necessary. The story alone is too slight to sustain an entire picture, and by adding a bit of polyester sparkle, they give themselves more room to play. (Parental guidance suggested)

POP

HELEN KAYE

The ever-inventive Shlomi Goldenberg has arranged a tribute to the late Frank Sinatra called *My Way*. He'll be on saxophone with Kobi Ehrlich on piano, Oded Goldschmidt on bass, Shahar Haziza on drums and singers Shelli Allen, Vered Dekel, Amalia Paniel and Dani Sagi, among others. Tonight in the Upper Cellar at Beit Lessin at 10 p.m

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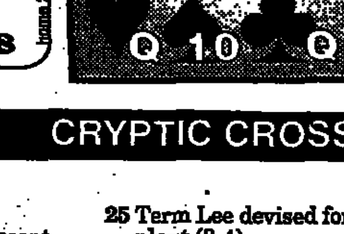
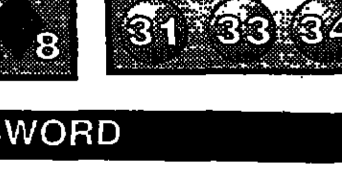
WINNING CARDS

in yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily chance drawing



WINNING NUMBERS

in yesterday's weekly Lotto drawing



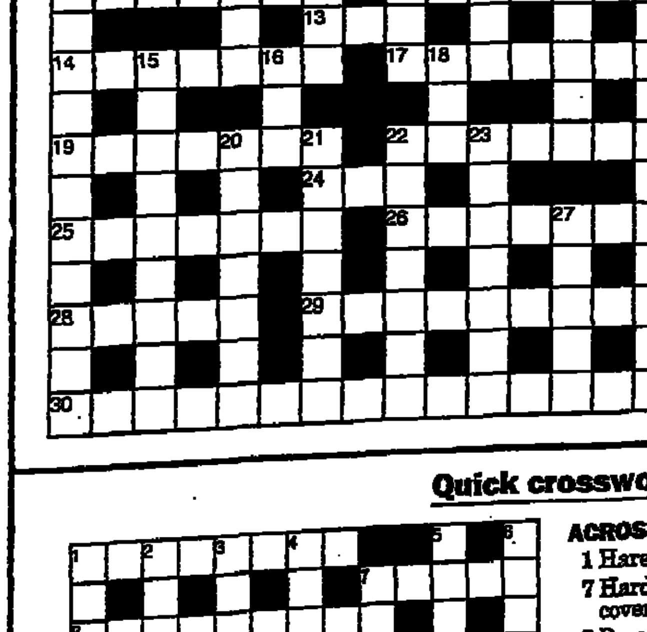
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

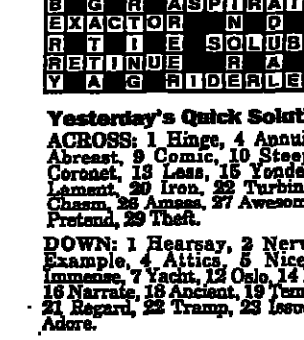
1 Resent having to accept second said thing that doesn't follow general rule (4,9,2)
9 What, say, flower was uprooted by birds swimming? (9)
10 Have only a fraction of a body of constables (5)
11 Move about the home (7)
12 A live TV broadcast in Israel (3,4)
13 Regret cruel heart (3)
14 Fellow with Sally 'e intercepted wrongly (7)
17 Fit in the German inhabitant (7)
19 Cap that is not worn on one's head (7)
22 The romp round a place in Northumberland (7)
24 The French article in the open country (3)
25 Term Lee devised for a tall plant (3-4)
26 It is possible to calm down the queen in the story (7)
28 Fare needed to board a bus perhaps (3,2)
29 Sound as a bell (4-1-4)
30 Move clumsily with a pair of like measures (4,3,4,4)

DOWN

1 Powerful tug that can be relied on (5,2,8)
2 Drawing all but the top of the boat (5)
3 Along the way in France? (2,5)
4 Falsify accounts with fifth rate lines, it's done in the kitchen (7)
5 Guided polite members to front door (7)
6 Sudden decision of one Frenchman on the beat (7)
7 Dandy serf not in music city (9)
8 Intoxicated cox? (3,4,3,5)
15 Left one composing motet outside before four with recurring theme (9)
16 Lady from Long Island going to mid-Wales (3)
18 Try to win affection in court (3)
20 Title a Bronte could have arranged (7)
21 Most of the charged particle used on the printing plate (7)
22 Coat for baby in afternoon performance (7)
23 Batter some defence (7)
27 Main water supply (5)



SOLUTIONS

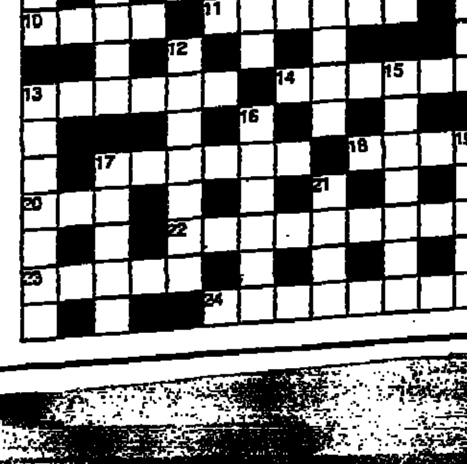


Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Hinge, 4 Annuity, 8 Abreast, 9 Comic, 10 Steep, 11 Coronet, 13 Less, 15 Yonder, 17 Lament, 20 Iron, 22 Turbine, 24 Chasm, 26 Amass, 27 Awesome, 28 Pretend, 29 Theft.

DOWN: 1 Hearsay, 2 Nerve, 3 Example, 4 Attics, 5 Nicer, 6 Immense, 7 Yacht, 12 Oslo, 14 Erin, 16 Narrate, 18 Ancient, 19 Tempest, 21 Regard, 22 Tramp, 23 Issue, 25 Adore.

Quick crossword



ACROSS

1 Hare's rival (8)
7 Hard outer covering (5)
8 Recall (9)
9 Donkey (3)
10 Drag (4)
11 Coach (6)
13 Car fuel (6)
14 Rely (6)
17 Large beaked bird (6)
18 Superlatively good (4)
20 Knight's title (3)
22 Pavilion (9)
23 Flower (5)
24 Make unstable (8)

DOWN

1 Hand-held light (5)
2 Narrate (7)
3 Night birds (4)
4 Oration (6)
5 Part of flower (5)
6 Red in the face (7)
7 Bent down (7)
12 One of the Southern constellations (7)
13 Meditative (7)
15 First principle (7)
16 Imperial liquid measure (6)
17 Company of soldiers (5)
19 Topic (5)
21 In this place (4)

TV

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Oriental Studies
8:30 English
9:00 Science
9:25 English
9:40 Mathematics
9:55 Geography
10:00 Programs for the very young
11:00 Science
11:40 Environmental Studies
12:10 Scientific Literature
12:30 Music
13:00 Art
13:30 Animation

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Elie and Lily and Zap 1
15:35 X Men
16:00 Bykker Grove
16:30 Boy Meets World
16:59 New Evening
17:35 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
17:45 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS
18:15 France '98
19:15 News Bulletin
20:35 The Gregory Hines Show – new comedy series about a widower bringing up his 12-year-old son.
21:00 News
21:45 France '98
00:00 News
00:05 Verse of the Day

■ CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Shelf
6:00 Rupert Bear
6:30 Choco with Tel-Ad
6:43 Coffee with Tel-Ad
9:00 The Third Time
9:55 Thirty Something
10:50 Home of the Brave
11:40 Empty Nest
12:05 Brotherly Love
12:30 Amazing Stories
13:00 My Secret Identity
13:30 Junior News
14:00 Home and Away
14:30 Tick Tack
15:00 Meeting Point
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Different Driving
17:00 Five with Reshef
17:30 Sport TV
18:00 Everybody Loves Raymond
18:30 Before All
20:00 News
20:30 Ramat Aviv Gimmel
21:15 Gov Night
22:35 The X Files
23:30 Homicide
00:00 News
00:05 Homicide - cont.
00:30 Edinburgh Isn't Waiting For Me – documentary about an Israeli homosexual theater group at the 1995 Edinburgh Festival
1:15 The Red Sea Jazz Festival – Yonatan Avishai
2:50 On the Edge of the Shelf

■ JORDAN TV (31) (unconfirmed)

16:00 Holy Koran
16:10 Mr. Bogus
16:30 Arsen Lupin
17:00 Oshoa
18:00 The End
18:30 Neighbors
19:00 Le Journal
19:15 French Show
19:30 News Headlines
19:35 Police Academy
20:00 Hollywood Remembers
21:00 Local Magazine
21:10 Kung Fu
22:00 News in English
22:30 Miniseries
00:00 Country Music
00:30 Local Affairs

■ MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)

14:00 TV Shop
14:30 Body Electric
15:00 Basic Training
15:30 The 700 Club
16:00 Larry King
17:00 Gerbert
17:23 Creation Station
17:45 Mort & Phil
18:10 Jack Hanna
18:35 Wait Till You Have Kids
19:00 Showbiz
19:30 World News Tonight (Arabic)
20:00 Stockard Channing
20:25 Newhart
20:50 Movie: Deadly Encounter
22:30 Movie Magic
23:00 The 700 Club
23:30 CNN News

CABLE

■ ITV 3 (33)

16:00 Animation
16:45 Amores
17:30 From Day To Day
18:00 Wiseman of the Generations
19:00 Arabic News
19:30 Telekessef
20:00 News
20:45 Scent of Mint
22:15 News Room
22:40 Hollywood Love
23:30 Entertainment Now

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Riding High
16:00 Mathematics
16:30 English 9
17:00 Bobby
17:30 Dear Brother
18:00 Pique-Nique
18:30 Cooking with Capriel
19:00 Oriental Studies
19:30 Vis-a-Vis
20:00 New Evening
20:30 Tastes
21:00 New 20th Century
22:00 Business Communications
22:15 Family Ties
23:00 Upstairs Downstairs

■ CHANNEL 3

7:00 E!:TV: Wonderful Jewels
8:00 Celeste
9:00 One Life to Live
9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt)
10:30 Days of Our Lives
11:15 Dulce Ana (rpt)
12:00 Love Boat
12:45 Hart to Hart
13:30 John Larroquette
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Days of Our Lives
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Dulce Ana
16:45 One Life to Live
17:30 The Other Half
18:00 Trivia King (rpt)
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Beverly Hills 90210 (rpt)
20:25 Melrose Place
21:10 Good Evening with Guy Pines: Cannes Film Festival
22:00 Mad About You
22:30 Seinfeld (rpt)
23:00 Ricki Lake (rpt)
23:45 Law and Order
00:30 Babylon 5
1:20 Love Boat

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 War and Remembrance (1989) – two episodes
13:15 The Royal Bed (1931) – a king has to deal with royal affairs and the princess's intentions of marrying a commoner while the queen is on vacation. With Lowell Sherman and Mary Astor
14:25 Seeing Stars
14:55 Lily Dale (1996) – adaptation of Horton Foote's play about a young man who returns to his Houston home in 1910 after a long absence. With Mary Stuart Masterson
16:30 Seeing Stars
17:00 Siringo (1994) – a sheriff hunts for two escaped murderers
18:25 Seeing Stars
19:00 Sunstroke (Hebrew, 1984) – four friends' last days of freedom before the army. With Anat Atzmon and Yuval Banai
20:20 James Dean: Race with Destiny (1996) – biographical drama about James Dean
22:05 Surviving the Game (1994) – a destitute man is hired to work at a hunting resort only to discover that he has been set up.
23:45 Jimmy Hollywood (1994) – an out-of-work actor plays out the role of his lifetime as an urban vigilante. With Joe Pesci
1:40 Invasion of Privacy (1992) – erotic thriller about an ex-con who falls obsessively in love with his new boss. With Robby Benson and Jennifer O'Neill
3:15 Love Crimes (1992) – erotic thriller

■ CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons
9:00 Oscar and Friends
9:10 Celestine
9:20 Surprise Garden
9:40 Oliver Twist
10:00 The Smurfs
10:35 Ninja Turtles
11:00 Bobby's World
11:25 Soul Music
11:50 Animaniacs
12:20 Different World
12:50 Nancy Drew
13:15 Bernstein Bears
13:30 Theo
13:40 Barney
14:05 Arthur
14:30 The Smurfs
15:05 Ninja Turtles
15:30 Bobby's World
15:55 Space Goofs
16:25 Animaniacs
16:50 Family Matters
17:10 Nancy Drew
17:45 Sliders
18:35 The Secret World of Alex
19:00 Nick Freno
19:30 Family Matters
19:50 Married with Children
20:15 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
20:45 Full House
21:10 Beverly Hills 90210

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Antonia & Jane (1991) – quirky British movie about the friendship between two childhood friends who are complete opposites: one is unattractive yet adventurous, the other smart and sleek. With Saskia Reeves, Imelda Staunton and Brenda Bruce
23:15 Salle Comme un Angel (French, 1991, 102 min.) – a look at the destructive relationship between an aging policeman and the young frigid wife of his partner

■ CHANNEL 8

6:00 Open University
8:00 A Healthy Body
8:30 Eyes on the World: Acrobats of the Sand (rpt)
9:30 Ultrascience
10:00 Mozart Symphony No. 40
10:30 Mozart Symphony No. 41
11:30 Valery Gergiev
12:30 Anton Webern
13:00 Endangered Species, part 5 (rpt)
13:30 Wildlife Adventures
14:15 World Apart (rpt)
14:45 Natural Born Healers: Herbalism (rpt)
15:15 Under the Eye of God (rpt)
16:10 Cousteau: Madagascar I (rpt)
17:00 Open University: Reckoning;The Mechanical Universe; Nutrition Pathways
19:05 Endangered Species, part 6: Pelican
19:35 Wildlife Adventures
20:30 World Apart
21:00 Natural Born Healers: Acupuncture
21:30 Under the Eye of God, part 2
22:20 Cousteau: Madagascar II
23:10 Open University: Hidden World; Cities of Islam ; Business Definition

■ NBC EUROPE (19/10)

6:00 The News
7:00 Europe Today
10:00 European Money Wheel
13:00 Internight (rpt)
14:00 Time and Again
15:00 Flavors of France
15:30 VIP (rpt)
16:00 The Today Show
17:00 Art and Practice of Gardening
17:30 Awesome Interiors
18:00 Time and Again
19:00 Travel Xpress
19:30 VIP
20:00 Europe Tonight
20:30 The Ticket
21:00 National Geographic Television
22:00 European Tour Golf: National Car Rental English Open
23:00 Tonight Show
00:00 Late Night with Conan O'Brien
1:00 The Ticket (rpt)
1:30 VIP (rpt)
2:00 Tonight Show (rpt)

■ STAR PLUS (18/15)

6:00 Hindi programs
8:00 Oprah Winfrey
9:00 Mind Your Language
9:30 Heartbeat
10:30 Santa Barbara
11:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
12:00 Hindi film
14:00 Wonder Years
14:30 Small Wonder
15:00 Hindi programs
18:30 Star News
19:00 'Allo 'Allo
19:30 The X-Files
20:30 Hindi program
21:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
21:30 Star News (rpt)
22:00 Newhart
22:30 L.A. Law
23:30 Due South
00:30 Charlie's Angels
1:30 Santa Barbara
2:30 Oprah Winfrey

■ BBC WORLD (13/14)

News on the hour
6:45 World Business
7:30 Reporters (rpt)
8:30 Holiday: Fasten Your Seat Belt (rpt)
9:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
10:30 Earth Report
11:30 Reporters (rpt)
12:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
13:30 Film '98 (rpt)
14:00 The World Today
15:30 Secret Nature of the Channel Shore
16:00 World News and Business Report
16:30 The World Today
17:30 Future Fantastic: Starman (rpt)
18:30 Hard Talk
19:30 Holiday (rpt)
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
22:30 Money Program
23:10 World News and Business Report
23:30 Top Gear
00:10 Europe Direct
1:00 World News and Business Report
1:30 Hard Talk (rpt)

■ CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)

News through the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:00 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline (rpt)
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sports
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (rpt)
12:30 World Sport
13:30 American Edition
13:45 World Report: As They See It
14:30 Your Health
15:15 News and Business Asia
16:30 CNN Newsroom
17:30 World Sport
18:30 Style
19:00 Larry King Live
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business
22:30 Q&A
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight
00:00 World Business
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
2:30 Moneyline

■ CHANNEL 5 (05)

6:00 NBA Live – Western Final
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 Getting Ready for the World Cup
18:00 Handball – Israel Youth vs Netherlands Youth
19:00 NBA Finals – game 3
21:30 WNBA League Special
22:00 Ice Skating
23:00 Boxing

■ EUROSPORT (15/16)

9:30 Equestrianism
10:30 Formula 3000
11:00 Rally (rpt)
11:30 Soccer - World Cup kick off (rpt)
13:30 Motocross
14:00 Live Tennis – Halle, Germany
16:00 Live Tennis – Queen's, London
17:40World Cup opening ceremony
18:15 Live Soccer – Brazil vs Scotland
20:30 Soccer – World Cup opening ceremony (rpt)
21:30 Soccer - World Cup highlights
21:50 Live Soccer – World Cup: Morocco vs Norway
00:00 Soccer – World Cup: Brazil vs Scotland (rpt)
2:00 Soccer – World Cup Journal

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Schumann: 3 Romances op 94, Fantasiestucke op 73 and Abendslied op 85 no. 12 (Holliger / Brendel); Bach: Suite no. 4 for solo Cello (Bylsma)
7:07 Beethoven: Piano Concerto no. 2 op 19 (Kazakevich / English CO / Mackerras); Chopin: Piano Sonata no. 2 op 35
8:05 Chopin: Polonaise in A major (Pollini); Brahms: Symphony no. 1 (New York PO / Masur)
9:05 Telemann: Concerto for 2 Trumpets, 2 Oboes Strings and Continuo (Academy of St Martin / Brown); Tchaikovsky: String Serenade op 48; Khachaturian: Trio for Clarinet, Violin and Piano (Caldor); Mahler: Lied von der Erde (Ludwig / Wanderlich / Philharmonia/ Klemperer); Braun: Piano Trio (Israel Trio); Bartok: Contrasts for Clarinets, Violin and Piano (Caldor)
12:00 Light Classical - with Artur Rubinstein, piano
13:00 Artist of the Week - Itzhak Perlman, violin. Short pieces and encore pieces with Samuel Sanders, piano
14:06 Keys
16:00 Bach: Cantata no. 51 (Kirkby / English Bach soloists / Gardiner); Boieldieu: Harp Concerto (Laskine / Paillard Orch); Schumann: Dichterliebe (Hampson / Sawallisch); Kozeluch: Clarinet Concerto (Johnson / Royal PO / Herbig); Villa-Lobos: Choros no. 10
18:00 Debussy/Heifetz: Beau Soir (Chung / Molle); Gaubert: Fantaisie for Flute and Piano; Mendelssohn: Song Without Words; Mendelssohn: 3 songs (Protchka / Deutsch); Chopin: Fantaisie in F minor op 49 (Rubinstein); Brahms: Sonata no. 2 for Viola and Piano in E flat major op 120 no. 2 (Causse / Dishenable); Schumann: Piano Trio no. 2 op 80 (Israel Piano Trio); Dvorak: String Sextet op 48 (Smetana / Suk / Schuchro)
20:05 The Israel Camerata conducted by Avner Biron with Giora Feidman, clarinet. Works by Haydn, Olivero, Piazzolla, Sheriff, Bat-Haim, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Beethoven and Falla
23:00 Golden Generation - Jose Iturbi, piano. Scarlatti: Sonata in C major; Paradies: Toccata in A minor; Mozart: Sonata in F major K332; Mozart: Concerto for 2 Pianos K365 (A.Iturbi / Rochester PO); works by Albeniz, Granados and Navarro

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30			Beverly Hills 90210		Family Matters	Wildlife Adventures
20:00		News			Married with Children	
20:30	The Gregory Hines Show	Ramat Aviv Gimmel	Melrose Place	James Dean: Race with Destiny	Fresh Prince of Bel Air Full House	World Apart
21:00	News	Gov Night	Good Evening with Guy Pines		Beverly Hills 90210	Natural Born Healers
21:30	France '98					Under the Eye of God
22:00			Mad About You	Surviving the Game	Antonia and Jane	Cousteau
22:30		The X Files	Seinfeld			
23:00			Ricki Lake			

MOVIES

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE Shooting Fish 5 • The Rainmaker 7 • Rockcinema: The Grunge 9:30 • Shooting Fish 9:45 G.G. GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 Wild Man Blues∞L.A. Confidential∞The Man In The Iron Mask∞U.S. Marshals 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Deep Impact∞Mercury Rising 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Boxer 4:45, 10 • Amistad 4:30, 7:15, 10 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot As Good Ad It Gets 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 • The Horse Whisperer 3:15, 6:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 5, 8:45 • Picture Perfect 5, 7:30, 9:45 • She's So Lovely 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 5, 7:15, 9:45 • In and Out 5, 7:30 MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL ☎ 5700868 Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Scream 2 4:45, 7:15, 10 SMADAR ☎ 5618168 Welcome to Sarajevo 8 • Sweet Hereafter 6, 10

TEL AVIV
DIZENGOFF On connait la chanson∞The Spanish Prisoner 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 8, 10 • Deconstructing Harry 11 a.m., 3:15, 8, 10 • Wild Man Blues 1, 5:30 GAT ☎6967888 The Horse Whisperer 3:15, 6:30, 9:45 GLOBUS Wild Man Blues∞U.S. Marshals 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Live Flesh ∞Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Man In The iron Mask 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45 • Power Rangers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • L.A. Confidential 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 GORDON ☎5236992 Breaking the Waves 4, 7, 10 G.G. HOD 1–4 ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. L.A. Confidential 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Live Flesh∞The Boxer 5, 10 • U.S. Marshals 4:45, 10 LEV ☎5288288 Welcome to the Doll House 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 5, 7:30, 10 • Good Will Hunting 11 a.m., 1:45, 4:15, 7, 10 • Welcome to Sarajevo 12 noon, 2:15, 5, 7:30, 10 • Sweet Hereafter 11:30 a.m., 2, 7:30, 10 LEV AVIV Credit Card Reservations ☎6416841 Sweet Hereafter 11 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Welcome to Sarajevo 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Thief 11:15 a.m., 7:30, 10 • The End of Violence 7:15, 9:45 • Brassed Off 11 a.m., 2:45, 5, 7:30, 10 • Ma Vie en Rose 2:30, 5 • Ice Storm 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5 LIMOR ☎6968084 Shall We Dance 6, 9:45 • Empire of the Senses 8 G.G. PE'ER ☎5442141 Mercury Rising ∞Deep Impact∞The Boxer 5, 7:30, 10 • U.S. Marshals 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil 4:30, 7:15, 10 RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle Picture Perfect∞In and Out∞She's So Lovely 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 1:45, 4:30, 7, 9:45 • Scream 2 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674 Opera House She's So Lovely∞The Full Monty 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 5:15, 9 • Jackie Brown 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Boogie Nights 4, 7, 9:45 TEL AVIV MUSEUM Gadjo Dilo 5, 8, 10

HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎ 8325755 Deconstructing Harry 7:15, 9:15 • Sweet Hereafter 9:15 • The Thief 7:15 MORIAH ☎8242477 Live Flesh 7:30, 9:30 ORI ☎8500056 Mercury Rising ∞The Boxer∞Deep Impact 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Blues Brothers 2000∞U.S. Marshals 4:30, 7:15, 10 • L.A. Confidential 4:30, 10 • Sphere 4:30, 10 PANORAMA ☎8382020 Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact∞On connait la chanson 4:30, 7, 9:30 RAV-CHEN ☎8500055 Picture Perfect 5, 7:15, 9:30 • As Good As It Gets 4:15, 7, 9:30 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Jackie Brown 6:30, 9:30 • Scream 2 4:30, 7, 9:30 RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 8674311 Titanic 4:45, 8:30 • The Full Monty 5, 7:15, 9:30 RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 8416898 Titanic 4:45, 8:30 • Picture Perfect 5, 7:15, 9:30 • As Good As It Gets 4, 6:45, 9:30 • The Horse Whisperer 6:15, 9:30 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:15, 9:30 • In and Out 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Good Will Hunting 4:30, 7, 9:30 RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 8246553 The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 • Good Will Hunting 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Boogie Nights 6:30, 9:30 • Flubber 4:45

AFULA
RAV CHEN The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 • U.S. Marshals 7, 9:45 • The Weddding Singer 7, 9:30

ARAD
STAR ☎9950904 She's So Lovely 7:30, 10 • As Good As It Gets 7:30, 10 • Titanic 9

ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 L.A. Confidential 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Deep Impact∞The Full Monty∞No Names On the Doors∞Live Flesh 5, 7:30, 10 ORI ☎8568073 On connait on chanson∞U.S. Marshals 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 RAV CHEN ☎8661120 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Picture Perfect∞In and Out∞The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 4:45, 8:30 • As Good As It Gets 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact∞The Myth of Fingerprints 5, 7:30, 10 • U.S. Marshals 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Th Full Monty 5, 10 RAV CHEN ☎6711221 Good Will Hunting 5, 7:15, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 • The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Titanic 4:45, 8:30 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45

BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎5531077 Mercury Rising∞Picture Perfect∞Deep Impact 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 5, 7:15, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Titanic 4:45, 8:30

BEERSHEBA
G.G. GIL ☎6440771 The Full Monty∞The Myth of Fingerprints∞Scream 2∞Shall We Dance 5, 7:30, 10 G.G. ORI ☎6103111 Deep Impact∞Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 • U.S. Marshals∞Blues Brothers 2000 4:45, 7:15, 10 RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎6235278 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 4:15, 7:15, 9:45 • Titanic 4:45, 8:30 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45

EILAT
EILAT CINEMA Picture Perfect 7:30, 10 • The Wedding Singer 7:30, 10 • Titanic 9 • GIL ☎6340182 Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact 5, 7:30, 10 • Blues Brothers 2000 4:45, 7:15, 10

HADERA
LEV ☎6343555 Mercury Rising∞Shall We Dance ∞Deep Impact 7:15, 10 • The Thief 7:30, 10

HERZLIYA
COLONY ☎6902666 As Good As It Gets∞Jackie Brown 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 DANIEL ☎ 9544044 Titanic 5, 9 STAR ☎ 9589068 Deep Impact 7:30, 10 • The Wedding Singer 7:30, 10 • Mercury Rising 7:30, 10

HOD HASHARON
GIL ☎ 7408591 Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact∞The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 10 • Good Will Hunting 4:45, 7:15, 10

KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 Jackie Brown 6:15, 9:15 • The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 • The Wedding Singer 7, 9:30

KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 The Wedding Singer∞Deep Impact 5, 7:30, 10 • Blues Brothers 2000 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 • U.S. Marshals 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 4:45, 7:15, 10

KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. GIL Blues Brothers 2000∞Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact∞As Good As It Gets 7, 9:30 • U.S. Marshals 7, 9:30 • Scream 2 7, 9:30 • The Full Monty 7, 9:30 • Titanic 5:30, 9 • Jackie Brown 7, 9:30

KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎6905080 Mercury Rising∞The Myth of Fingerprints∞Good Will Hunting 4:30, 7, 9:30

NAHARIYA
HEICHAL HATARBUT ☎9829933 As Good As It Gets 8:30

UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL ☎6561332 Boogie Nights∞As Good As It Gets∞Midnight In the Garden of Good and Evil 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Titanic 5, 8:45 • U.S. Marshals 4:15, 7, 9:45

NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact 5, 7:30, 10 • As Good As It gets 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Titanic 5, 8:45

NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Blues Brothers 2000∞U.S. Marshals 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact 5, 7:30, 10 • Live Flesh 5, 7:30, 10 RAV CHEN ☎ 8618570 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Picture Perfect 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Titanic 6:15

OR AKIVA
RAV CHEN ☎ 6262758 The Wedding Singer∞In and Out 7, 9:30 • Good Will Hunting 7, 9:30

OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 5333292 U.S. Marshals∞As Good As It Gets 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Deep Impact∞In and Out 5, 7:30, 10

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. HECHAL ☎ 9317374 Blues Brothers 2000 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 10 • Picture Perfect 5, 7:30, 10 SIRKIN ☎ 9087989 Deep Impact∞Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 • As Good As It Gets∞U.S. Marshals 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Titanic 5, 8:45

RA'ANANA
PARK ☎ 7711321 The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 10:15 • The Horse Whisperer 6, 9 • Deep Impact 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Good Will Hunting 4:45, 7:30, 10:15

RAMAT GAN
RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 6197121 The Horse Whisperer 3:15, 6:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Titanic 6:15 RAV-OASIS 1-3 ☎ 6730687 Mercury Rising∞Picture Perfect 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Deep Impact 5, 7:15, 9:45

RAMAT HASHARON
KOKHAV ☎ 5491979 On connait la chanson 7:15, 9:30

REHOVOT
CHEN ☎ 9362864 The Spanish Prisoner 7:45, 9:45 • On connait la chanson 7:15, 9:45 • Gadjo Dilo 7:15, 10 • Boogie Nights 7, 9:45 RAV MOR ☎ 9493595 Deep Impact∞Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Titanic 4:45, 8:30 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45

RISHON LEZION
GIL 1-3 ☎ 9500785 Mercury Rising∞Deep Impact 5, 7:30, 10 • U.S. Marshals 4:45, 7:15, 10 HAZAHAV ☎ 9514968 Deep Impact∞Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 • Blues Brothers 200 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 10 RAV CHEN ☎ 9670504 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Picture Perfect 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 6:15 STAR ☎ 9619985 As Good As It Gets∞Welcome to Sarajevo 7:30, 10 • Titanic 9 • Seven Years In Tibet 10 • Jackie Brown 7:15

SHOHAM
STAR ☎ 9793834 As Good As It Gets 7:30, 10 • She's So Lovely 7:30, 10 • Titanic 9

YEHUD
RAV CHEN ☎5387910 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Picture Perfect 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 9:45 • Titanic 6

All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated. Phone reservations (credit card) for Golan Globus (G.G.) cinemas at 1-700-50-50-50

Bezeq International Ltd.

Brazil, Scotland open World Cup

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McGwire hits 29th
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Venables returns to Palace
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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

FRANCE 98

Today at the World Cup
Group A
Brazil-Scotland St. Denis
18:30 (Channel 1, Eurosport)
Morocco-Norway Montpellier
22:00 (Channel 1, Eurosport)

ST. DENIS (AP) – When Ronaldo taps the ball off the center spot today, the biggest and richest World Cup in history will begin. Brazilians, who have played in every Cup and won four of them, know how special it is.

"We must understand this moment," says Milan midfielder Leonardo. "I want to make history."

Brazil and Scotland write the first chapter of the 1998 World Cup when they meet at 18:30 (Israel time) at the Stade de France in St. Denis, north of Paris.

Over the next 33 days, a record 32 national teams will compete in the last World Cup of the century.

Defending champion Brazil is the solid favorite to beat Scotland. The team has been ranked No. 1 in the world by FIFA since 1994 and is spearheaded by 21-year-old forward Ronaldo, twice voted FIFA Player of the Year.

Scotland's first priority is to stop Brazil displaying its renowned attacking prowess.

"We have to lift ourselves to another level and show we can compete against Brazil," said midfielder John Collins, who will win his 50th cap today. "We will need a superb performance today as well as in the other two games if we are to progress to the next round."

More World Cup, Page 17

BOOTING UP – Brazilian star Ronaldo gets set for opener against Scotland at Stade du France in St. Denis today. (Reuters)

Brazil coach Mario Zagallo draws from a talent pool that is the envy of his rivals. When 1994 World Cup hero Romario was ruled out of the tournament last week with a calf injury, another star from four years ago, Bebeto, moved into the spot.

Waiting in the wings, ready to fly, are Fiorentina forward Edmundo and 20-year-old phenomenon Denilson of Spain's Real Betis.

Zagallo has changed the team's style from the defensive setup of 1994 to a freer-flowing game he calls "art soccer." In midfield are virtuosos Giovanni and Rivaldo, teammates at Spanish champion Barcelona. Still more firepower comes from speedy wing backs Cafu and thunder-footed Roberto Carlos.

But Brazil's seemingly relentless march to the title recently has faltered. A shaky defense and injuries – center back Aldair was only cleared to play late yesterday – could yet derail the Brazilian express.

The team lost its last home game 1-0 to archrival Argentina, and warmup games against Spain's Atletico Bilbao and tiny Andorra weren't much use to test the Brazilians.

Team coordinator Zico, a veteran of three Cups, wants to lower expectations.

"We won't be 100 percent in the first game, but we'll pick up steam as we go," he said. "A tie won't be the end of the world."

Scotland has faced Brazil three times in the World Cup. A 0-0 tie in 1974 was followed by a 4-1 loss in 1982 and a 1-0 defeat in 1990 – when rookie goalie Taffarel made a miraculous save to guarantee the win.

Defender Colin Calderwood said the Scots won't leave it up to one player to stop Ronaldo.

"It is a team responsibility. That is how we are approaching it," he said. "He is someone that we will look out for, but we are not about to concentrate all our efforts on one player."

Teammate Gordon Durie is also in a determined mood. "We must go for the throat," Durie said. "If we sit in and try and defend, they have players who can really destroy you."

Favre takes part in FBI sting

MILWAUKEE (AP) – Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre cooperated with an FBI sting operation that resulted in two men being charged with selling more than 1,000 phony Favre autographs, a prosecutor said Monday.

"Brett feels bad about the whole incident – and he really feels bad for the little kids who thought they were getting real autographs," said Joe Sweeney, Favre's marketing agency.

Biskupic said the sting operation started after authorities got a tip last year that Ron Marth, a sports memorabilia dealer from suburban Mequon, was selling phony Favre autographs.

An undercover officer gave Marth 50 photos of Favre and asked if he could get the quarterback to sign them.

Even though Favre didn't sign any photos, Marth returned the 50 photos to the officer with "Brett Favre 4" scrawled on them.

Favre, shown the autographs, said they were not his.

Marth, 53, has pleaded guilty to fraud charges in exchange for a one year sentence in prison.

SCOREBOARD

Swimmer Mickey Halika won his third gold medal in the Grand Prix circuit, in Cannes yesterday. Halika finished first in the 400 meter individual medley, setting a national mark of 4:22.10.

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Rodman goes AWOL ... again

Coach: He's not normal, but he's great at what he does

CHICAGO (AP) – His overnight trip to Las Vegas after Game 1 wasn't nearly as outrageous as his Mormon bashing last year. It's been tame stuff for the poster boy for bad behavior. He needed a really good antic, something that screamed Dennis Rodman. And he came through Monday, missing practice and the mandatory NBA Finals media session.

Rodman, who was fined $10,000 by the NBA and probably will be fined by the Chicago Bulls, was seen Monday night with Hulk Hogan attending a wrestling match in Auburn Hills, Michigan. He declined to talk to a reporter at the match, staying in a luxury box at The Palace.

He was with World Championship Wrestling president Eric Bischoff and wrestlers Hulk Hogan, Bret Hart and a 7-foot-4, 510-lb grappler billed as the "The Giant," who defended Rodman's absence from the Bulls.

"The beautiful thing about Dennis is that he's the epitome of a free spirit," said The Giant, whose real name is Paul Wight II. "If the Bulls try to control him from doing things like this, it would be like cutting off Samson's hair."

"I talked to Dennis and he did not speak," coach Phil Jackson said. "He said to my assistant trainer he didn't think he could make it down here in time for the press conference. I asked him, 'Dennis, what should I say to the press?' and he hung up on me."

NBA on TV
Game 4 of the finals is tonight in Chicago (4 am Thursday Israel time). Channel 5 will provide live coverage. The Bulls lead 2-1.

Only the tattooed and multi-hued one could top the Bulls' complete humiliation of the Jazz in Game 3. So what if the Bulls held the Jazz to 54 points, the lowest point total since the inception of the shot clock in 1954? Who cares if Utah looks beat and a sixth title is within Chicago's reach? So what if John Stockton and Karl Malone are getting testy? None of that matters, not when Rodman is wigging out again.

"It's very frustrating at this time," Scottie Pippen said. "But you don't want to carry that into the next time, you don't want to carry that into the next practice. You want the team chemistry to stay as strong as possible. Especially the situation we're in, we don't want Dennis taking the focus away from the team."

Accepting someone's quirks is one thing, but Rodman brings a whole new meaning to the word eccentric. There's his multicolored hair, now dyed in a fetching, green-and-black camouflage design. There's his landscape of tattoos and pierced body parts.

But more than anything, there's his behavior, which he seems to bring to new lows in the playoffs. Last year, it was Mormon bashing. This year, it's time management.

He waltzes in a half-hour late for home games. He disappears to the locker room early in each half – supposedly to keep his muscles warm – forcing Jackson to send a trainer to fetch him so he can make a grand entrance. A two-day birthday bender left him too pooped to practice in the second round. And now this.

"We couldn't have a society that acted like Dennis," Jackson said. "There would be nobody having lanes in the freeway, you couldn't queue up anywhere. You'd have to be disorderly. Dennis is not a normal person in our society, but he's great in what he does here."

THE WEATHER

http://www.accuweather.com

ISRAEL

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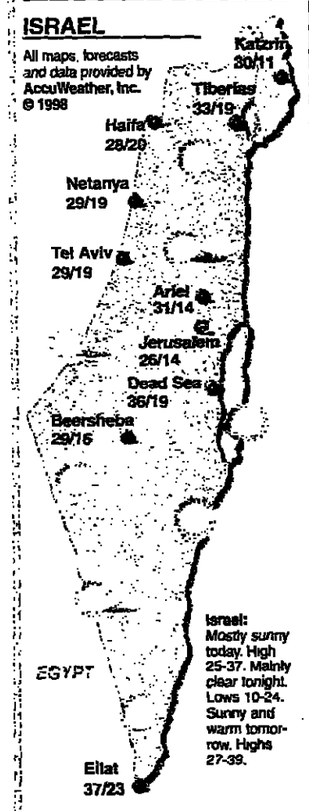
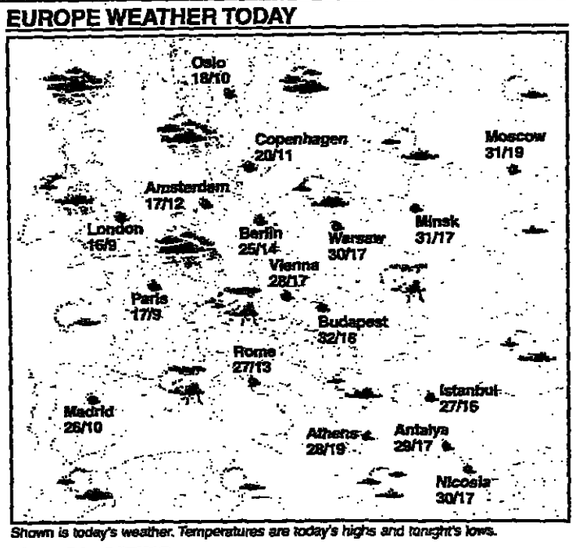


Israel: Mostly sunny today. High 25-37. Mainly clear tonight. Lows 10-24. Sunny and warm tomorrow. Highs 27-39.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Thursday High C/F	Thursday Low/W C/F	Friday High C/F	Friday Low/W C/F	Saturday High C/F	Saturday Low/W C/F
Ariel	31/88	14/57/s	33/91	14/57/s	35/95	17/62/pc	37/98	17/62/pc
Beersheba	29/84	16/61/s	31/88	18/64/s	33/91	20/68/pc	33/91	18/64/pc
Dead Sea	36/97	19/66/s	38/100	21/70/s	40/104	23/73/pc	42/107	23/73/pc
Eilat	37/98	23/73/s	39/102	25/77/s	39/102	27/80/pc	41/106	25/77/pc
Haifa	28/82	20/68/s	30/86	22/71/s	30/86	24/75/pc	32/89	22/71/pc
Jerusalem	26/79	14/57/s	28/82	16/61/s	30/86	18/64/s	30/86	16/61/pc
Katzrin	30/86	11/52/s	30/86	13/55/s	33/91	15/59/pc	35/95	15/59/pc
Netanya	29/84	19/66/s	31/88	21/70/s	31/88	23/73/pc	33/91	21/70/pc
Tel Aviv	29/84	19/66/s	29/84	21/70/s	31/88	23/73/pc	33/91	23/73/pc
Tiberias	33/91	19/66/s	33/91	21/70/s	36/97	23/73/pc	38/100	23/73/pc

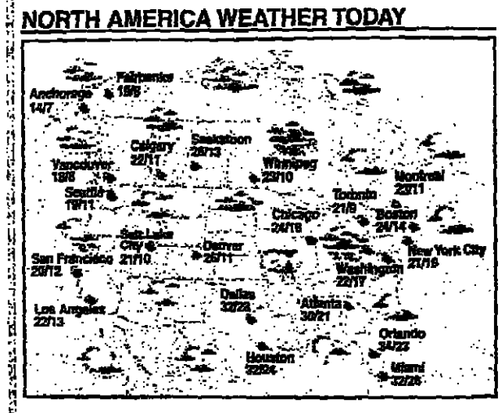
Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, f-fog.

Full Last New First
June 10 June 17 June 24 July 1

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Thursday High C/F	Thursday Low/W C/F	Friday High C/F	Friday Low/W C/F
Amsterdam	17/62	12/53/sh	16/61	3/37/r	11/52	4/39/sf
Beijing	31/88	22/71/pc	32/89	23/73/pc	33/91	21/70/pc
Berlin	25/77	14/57/sh	23/73	12/53/pc	20/68	9/48/pc
Brussels	16/61	11/52/r	15/59	4/39/c	12/53	6/43/s
Cairo	35/95	18/64/s	34/93	21/70/s	36/97	22/71/s
Chicago	24/75	16/61/pc	28/82	17/62/pc	26/79	16/61/pc
Frankfurt	29/84	17/62/c	23/73	12/53/pc	22/71	9/48/pc
Hong Kong	29/84	26/79/r	30/86	26/79/pc	29/84	26/79/pc
Johannesburg	19/66	4/39/s	22/71	6/43/s	22/71	7/44/pc
London	16/61	9/48/sh	13/55	3/37/c	14/57	7/44/sh
Los Angeles	22/71	13/55/pc	28/82	14/57/pc	28/82	14/57/pc
Madrid	26/79	10/50/s	26/79	12/53/s	27/80	14/57/s
Mexico City	26/79	12/53/pc	25/77	14/57/pc	27/80	14/57/pc
Montreal	23/73	11/52/pc	21/70	13/55/sh	24/75	16/61/sh
Moscow	31/88	19/66/s	32/89	21/70/s	31/88	21/70/pc
New York	21/70	16/61/sh	22/71	17/62/sh	24/75	18/64/pc
Paris	17/62	9/48/pc	14/57	3/37/pc	13/55	7/44/s
Prague	28/82	15/59/c	19/66	10/50/c	21/70	7/44/pc
Rio de Janeiro	28/82	17/62/s	27/80	19/66/pc	25/77	19/64/pc
Rome	27/80	13/55/s	23/73	11/52/s	20/68	10/50/pc
Sydney	18/64	12/53/c	19/66	16/61/pc	24/75	16/61/pc
Tokyo	22/71	19/66/r	23/73	19/66/c	25/77	20/68/sh
Toronto	21/70	9/48/r	23/73	13/55/pc	26/79	13/55/sh
Vienna	28/82	17/62/s	21/70	14/57/c	23/73	12/53/sh
Warsaw	30/86	17/62/s	28/82	17/62/f	27/80	14/57/sh
Washington	22/71	17/62/sh	26/79	18/64/pc	27/80	19/66/pc
Zurich	19/66	6/46/r	18/64	7/44/c	16/61	6/43/pc

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



All systems go
Some 115 children from ILAN – the Israel Foundation for Handicapped Children – engage in the Cedric Coco Memorial Wheelchair Marathon run in Ramat Gan Sunday. (Michael Friedin)